

JPRS 84336

15 September 1983

Southeast Asia Report

No. 1339

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SOUTHEAST ASIA REPORT

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EXPORT EARNINGS, ENERGY PROBLEMS THREATEN ECONOMIC GAINS

Paris LE MONDE DIPLOMATIQUE in French Aug 83 pp 9-11

[Article by Marcel Barang]

[Excerpt] Burma has had abundant harvests for the past 3 years: 13 million tons of paddy in 1980-1981, 14 million tons the following year, and perhaps even more this year--or more than twice the country's prewar production, which is the inevitable benchmark. Those "historic records" are due in part to good weather conditions and even more to the experimental use of high-yield varieties that began in 1975 and was followed by their systematic use as part of a collectivization program that groups the peasants into production cooperatives (the townships program).

The new townships, which currently number about 100 out of a total of 362, receive state aid in the form of seed, fertilizer, insecticides, and mechanical equipment (tractors and motor pumps) in quantities that are still very limited. They make it possible to settle landless peasants on land that is mainly uncultivated.² If necessary during sowing time, squads of volunteers (especially soldiers) give them a hand. Remuneration, based on a complex system of work points, averages less than half the income of independent ricegrowers. As a result, the latter are disinclined to join the cooperatives.

For example, one village near Legu, about 50 kilometers north of the capital, has nearly 400 houses but only about 100 families working in the cooperative. The neighboring cooperative town, established in 1979-1980, has 150,000 inhabitants, including 12,000 farmers working 40,000 hectares, between 15 and 20 percent of which are mechanized.

The independent peasants also have access to the high-yield varieties. They are required to sell between 20 and 60 percent of their reported production to one of the approximately 1,000 government purchasing centers scattered around in the ricegrowing zones. Obviously, they tend to underestimate their harvest so as to get their quotas lowered.

The high-yield varieties produce a less tasty rice than the traditional varieties. If he can, the peasant keeps the latter for his own consumption and for sale on the free market, where the same quantity will bring him about 40 percent more than it would if he sold to the government. It is estimated that rice

traded on the parallel market accounts for about 40 percent of the country's rice consumption, even though two-thirds of the population (all the ricegrowers and all farmworkers paid in kind) are self-sufficient in rice. For the remaining one-third (urban inhabitants and those in the nonricegrowing zones), the official monthly ration is 13 kilograms per adult and 6.5 kilograms per child, and it is sold at prices averaging half the price on the free market.

For its exports, therefore, the government inherits rice that is of poorer quality and harder to sell at a good price. Since the Burmese product is 25-percent broken rice, it cannot compete with Thai rice, for example.³ Burmese authorities began releasing an exportable surplus of 700,000 tons in 1979-1980, and that figure was up to 1 million tons last year. But world rice prices collapsed from \$320 a ton at the start of 1981 to between \$170 and \$180 a ton last September. And since 1980, rice has accounted for about 45 percent of Burma's total exports. Even if Rangoon manages to export all its surplus, the drop in foreign exchange earnings will be very sizable this year. The principal purchasers of Burmese rice are India and Indonesia. Other buyers are Sri Lanka, Vietnam, and a few African countries (Tanzania, Gambia, Madagascar, and Mauritius).

The authorities are also faced with a very serious storage problem. The warehousing centers that can be seen around Rangoon present the spectacle of mountains of unprotected paddy being attacked by birds. Those vast piles are carefully sloped "so that the rain will not do too much damage," explains the official in charge of one of the centers. According to an official report, storage capacity, which until 1979 could handle only 60 percent of the total rice purchased by the government, was 46 percent in 1981. The nearly 400 warehouses now under construction will increase total capacity by only about 600,000 tons, or 1 percent more than in 1981.

Despite that, the authorities still want to "consolidate the gains achieved with rice"--that is, they are pushing for new "historic harvests" by improving yields per hectare through a progressive increase in inputs (fertilizer and insecticides) and in irrigated acreages. At the same time, however, they are encouraging a diversification of crops--and again by the introduction of special high-yield programs that now cover nearly 90 townships. Spectacular results have been achieved: in 3 years' time, the production of wheat, corn, and sunflower has tripled, cotton production has doubled, and the production of sugarcane and peanuts has increased by half. Since most of the 18 supplementary crops are intended for domestic consumption (although beans and dry vegetables accounted for 5.2 percent of the country's exports in 1981-1982), they are protected from world price fluctuations, but their yield per hectare is quickly going to level off or even decline because of the growing energy shortage.

Thanks to the start of three mechanization projects financed by the World Bank and the Asian Development Bank (ADB), the forestry sector made strong progress (13.1 percent) during fiscal 1981-1982. Burma is known to possess three-fourths of the world's teak reserves. It increased its teak production to 500,000 tons in 1982 and its production of other hardwoods to 800,000 tons--lumber as a whole accounting for an average of 20 percent of the country's annual exports. But here again, world prices are weakening, especially those for sawn timber.

The downward trend is even more marked and longer lasting in the mining industry (from 8 to 10 percent of all exports in 1982). Burma has an abundance of minerals and metals (tin, tungsten, zinc, lead, silver, and so on),⁴ and this sector in particular has attracted many bilateral and multilateral aid projects. The financing for those projects was settled during the past decade, but--bitter irony--when they are finally completed, the collapse or decline in world prices tends to confiscate all or part of the expected profits.

So whether we are talking about rice or other basic exports, Burma is now having to face a sizable loss of foreign exchange on its exports. At the same time, it finds itself faced with a serious domestic energy shortage.

This country's good fortune has been the fact that it has always been self-sufficient in petroleum. It even exported oil in 1979. But since 1980, production has been declining while domestic consumption has been rising steadily.

According to the report presented at the last session of the People's Assembly in March 1982, "petroleum production rose from 9.6 million barrels in 1977-1978 to 12 million barrels in 1981-1982, while natural gas production rose from 8.8 billion cubic feet to 23.4 billion cubic feet" during the same period.

While foreign experts are willing, with some reservations, to accept the official figures on natural gas production, they feel that current petroleum production stands at only about 9 million barrels and that it is continuing to decline. That decline is said to be due basically to "overdrilling," resulting in the "depressurization" of Mann--the chief deposit--in the Irrawaddy Delta.

In November 1981, the prime minister announced the discovery of three new petroleum deposits "of world importance"--two in the delta and the third near Pagan--with "proven reserves exceeding 1.5 billion barrels." Foreign petroleum men in Burma now say that was a "premature statement." According to a document of American origin, one of the two deposits in the delta--at Kyontani--seems "promising, but its exploitation will be difficult because of the flooding of the delta" during the 6 or 8 months of monsoon. The deposit near Pagan is said to produce a crude oil too thick to be extracted. The third deposit, in Tantabin, reportedly has more natural gas (now being exploited) than petroleum.

In February 1982, Rangoon resumed offshore petroleum exploration by signing an exploration contract with the Burma Petroleum Development Company (the Burmese branch of a Japanese consortium) covering the Gulf of Martaban, where other foreign companies (including Schlumberger-Forax-Neptune) are also at work, although they apparently have not found anything so far.

One American specialist says: "At best--that is, supposing that offshore oil is discovered now in exploitable quantities--its marketing could not begin before 1988 at the earliest, considering the necessary drilling and the time it takes to set up the routing structures. Things would go faster with onshore oil. But because they lack the appropriate technology, the Burmese cannot drill below 10,000 feet, and that is where the proven reserves are. Incidentally, they refuse to go through the international petroleum companies, with which they would

have to share production. Maybe they are waiting to see what kind of contracts China, which has the same problems, is going to sign."

While refining capacity has just been increased to 57,000 tons per day, actual production is estimated at 22,000 tons. It is said that between 400,000 and 500,000 tons of additional crude oil would be needed if Burma's (aging) production apparatus were to operate at full output. The rumor that Rangoon has just bought 100,000 tons of crude oil from Indonesia remains unverifiable. The authorities are keeping quiet. In any case, the lines of cars at service stations have reappeared intermittently over the past 6 months.⁵ The fuel shortages paralyze--sometimes for months at a time--workshops and factories, electric power plants, a sizable portion of the fishing fleet, and part of the mechanical equipment in the agricultural sector. The local press sometimes reports those difficulties.

Those restrictions have occurred just as the manufacturing and industrial sector, which experienced a growth rate of 9 percent in 1981-1982, was beginning to take a significant bite out of the dominant parallel economy. In March 1982, the minister of planning and finance reported to the People's Assembly that the production of goods and services the year before had reached a total of \$250 million--perhaps \$100 million more than all the products sold on the black market. Production by the state--and, in rare cases, by Burmese or Sino-Burmese contractors--of blankets, towels, paper, glass items, bicycles, water pumps and so on has helped considerably to bring down the price of those items, which formerly had been imported. The same is true of the assembly of (Japanese) automobiles, tractors, trucks, and buses. Cloth, automobile tires, and electrical supplies are half as expensive on the black market as they were 3 years ago. The dollar rate on the black market has dropped in recent months from 20 to 18 kyat (the official rate is 7.7 or 7.5 kyat to the dollar, depending on whether one pays in travelers checks or in cash), and ordinary consumer goods, imported mainly from Thailand but also, to a smaller extent, from China or India, have fallen in line with that rate.

Increasing Exports To Pay Debts

The loss on sales of export products and the energy crisis would not be too serious in themselves if the country were not faced at the same time with a sudden increase in its external debt.

A European diplomat explains: "When the hunger riots in 1974 forced admission that the autarkic development that had been the rule until then was a failure, Burmese leaders clung to foreign loans as their last hope for financing economic recovery. For reasons both economic (scarcity of savings) and political, they rejected domestic and foreign private investment, turning instead to bilateral and multilateral aid,⁶ which it was easier for them to control. Today, the debts contracted over the past decade are falling due in quite heavy installments."

At the end of 1982, the debt totaled \$1.78 billion, and the service on that debt currently fluctuates between 28 and 34 percent of the annual exports (which totaled \$508 million in 1981-1982). The same diplomat added: "For any

country other than Burma, that would be unacceptable.⁷ But in fact, it refers to all external debt, since the distinction between public and private debt does not apply."

Commercial attaches are pleased that "the Burmese are managing their debt conservatively." One attache reportedly received assurance recently from a Burmese leader that "the priorities go to repayment of the debt, then to maintaining diplomatic offices abroad, and what remains will be used to import routine goods."

There are two immediate consequences: the abrupt drop in international reserves, which fell from \$264.8 million at the start of 1981 to \$83.5 million in October 1982 (the IMF's figures), and the brutal contraction of imports. One commercial attache reports: "Since September-October, allocations of foreign exchange to state corporations for imports of spare parts and routine goods have been trimmed by an average of 20 percent. Some international calls for tenders were suddenly reduced by between 50 and 70 percent."

The shrinkage of imports, while it may make it possible to reduce the growing trade deficit in the future,⁸ threatens to jeopardize the modernization and the very operation of the production apparatus, "and this," adds our interlocutor, "at the very time when the lag built up over the years when the country was closed had almost been overcome."

Alarmed by the high proportion of capital needed to cover the nonconcessionary portion of the debt, the Burmese authorities have refused for about a year to contract nonconcessionary debt (that is, short-term debts at commercial interest rates) except in emergencies in sectors considered strategic or when the prospect has existed of making the investment pay off quickly through increased exports. An example of this is the fact that despite manifest good political will between Paris and Rangoon, Burma still wants nothing to do with most of the mixed credit totaling 200 million francs that France made available to it last year.

The Burmese Government has started a drive to promote exports as a means of acquiring foreign exchange (that is one of the conditions established by the World Bank for its continued aid). But besides the fact that the cumbersome red tape involved in the local bureaucracy (1.5 million government employees) scarcely facilitates initiative and that "black" money is invested in consumption rather than in production,⁹ is it not true that in the present world context, this boils down to "exporting more to earn less"? So it seems that this gamble has been lost in advance.

FOOTNOTES

2. Despite the nationalization in 1948 and the agrarian reform that followed, half of Burma's peasants are landless. The other half cultivates plots of between 7 and 20 acres (between 2.8 and 8 hectares), a much higher figure than the average for farms in Asia's monsoon belt.

3. To improve the quality of husked rice, the Asian Development Bank is financing the construction of 12 rice mills with a capacity of 100 tons per day. Each is costing \$1 million.
4. The official production of tin and tungsten is close to 3,000 tons. Total production is estimated at 7,000 or 8,000 tons, most of it going to Thailand and Singapore, where the world price is from 15 to 20 times higher than the price the Burmese Government pays its miners for those metals.
5. Gasoline is distributed at a rate of between 100 and 120 gallons per vehicle per month at 3.5 kyat per gallon. Despite many controls, this gives rise to very persistent illegal trafficking. The gasoline is resold on the black market at 20 or 22 kyat in Rangoon and at up to twice that much in the provinces. Since just about everyone stores it, it sometimes causes huge neighborhood fires.
6. Multilateral aid accounts for 30 percent of the total and comes from the World Bank, the Asian Development Bank, the European Community, and OPFEC. Japan heads the list of donor countries, followed by the FRG, Czechoslovakia, and France (1981-1982).
7. Editor's note: In some countries, debt service in 1983 is actually exceeding exports: 153 percent in Argentina, 126 percent in Mexico and Israel, 117 percent in Brazil, 94 percent in Poland, and a full 195 percent in Zambia.
8. Totalling \$215 million in 1980-1981 and \$425 million in 1981-1982. The balance of payments is positive but declining: \$165.4 million in 1979-1980, \$32.9 million in 1980-1981, and \$1.4 million in 1981-1982. Source: ECONOMIC TREND REPORT, May 1982, U.S. Embassy in Rangoon.
9. It should be noted that for the past 6 months, Burmese temporarily residing abroad have been permitted to open noninterest-bearing accounts in foreign exchange in Burma. After obtaining authorization, they can then use those funds for imports. The measure seems intended to encourage the investment of those funds in small business (stores, workshops, restaurants, and so on).

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CSO: 4219/71

MUSLIM RESISTANCE TO ATTEMPTS TO ENFORCE PANCASILA DESCRIBED

Arabia THE ISLAMIC WORLD REVIEW in English Aug 83 p 30

[Text]

Attempts by the newly re-elected Suharto regime to enforce the total adoption of its national ideology - Pancasila - by all social organisations suffered a significant setback recently. This occurred when the Indonesian Muslim Undergraduates Association - the HMI - decided at its 15th Congress held at Medan, Sumatra, between May 21-30, 1983, to retain Islam as its basic principle instead of replacing it with the Pancasila.

The refusal to accept a change in the organisation's constitution also meant a clear failure on the part of the youth and sports minister, Abdul Gafur. Arabia learned that the authorities permitted the holding of the congress on the expectation that it would adopt the Pancasila. Abdul Gafur himself addressed the congress, during which he explained that the government was in the process of drafting a law that would require all mass organisations to adopt the Pancasila as its "*dasar tunggal*" (sole foundation). When the delegates pointed out that the proposed law would destroy the individual identities of the organisations and would also run counter to the country's recognised intra-national diversity, Gafur denied that the act would have those effects.

Explaining the HMI's decision, its outgoing president, Ahmad Zacky Siradj, felt that discussing the Pancasila would be a retrogressive step. This is because, according to Siradj, the HMI since its formation in 1947 - just two years after the country declared its independence from the unrelenting Dutch - had always upheld the nation's constitutional struggles.

HMI's newly-elected president, Harry Azhar Aziz, also tried to play down what was obviously the biggest achievement of the congress. He explained that the Pancasila had

not been made the HMI's sole foundation because the national ideology had already been duly mentioned in the preamble of the constitution. When asked about his aim as the new leader of HMI, the 27-year-old fifth-year student at Jakarta's Industrial Management College replied: "To defend the Islamic identity of HMI."

The attempt to get the HMI to adopt the national ideology was the latest in a series of similar moves by the government which actually began after the New Order regime took over power from Sukarno in 1966. The moves started, not surprisingly, with the political parties. After much pressure from the government the numerous political parties agreed in 1973 to "accept" the regime's directive, which was first mooted in 1966, to regroup themselves into two political conglomerates. The four Islamic parties became known as the United Development Party or PPP, while the Christian, socialist and nationalist parties merged to become the Democratic Party (PDI).

The two political parties have since remained opposition parties, with small representations in the parliament and congress. The government-backed Golkar (Functional Group) party and the military are, unsurprisingly, the dominant groups in legislative chambers.

Despite the constraints imposed on the opposition parties, the PPP managed to retain its basic popularity in the elections. This support for the Islamic party was clearly evident in Aceh (Northern Sumatra) and in Jakarta itself.

Realising that the continued popularity of the PPP had been due to its Islamic basis, the government passed a law in 1975 requiring

political parties to adopt the Pancasila as its "asas pokok" (main foundation). The PPP initially tried to oppose the passage of this law by proposing an amendment, but failed. When applying the law, however, the party, while noting the Pancasila as its main foundation, also included Islam as its "asas ciri" (accompanying foundation).

The government nonetheless proceeded with its plans to enforce an undivided adherence to the Pancasila, and in late 1982 Suharto officially introduced the concept of Pancasila as the sole foundation of the parliament. Last March the Indonesian Congress (MPR), which also re-elected Suharto as president and Umar Wirahadikusumah as vice-president, adopted the "sole foundation" principle for political parties and mass organisations.

Efforts to place organisations under government control were also extended to the trade unions, youth groups and student organisations. The youth and student organisations had a wide freedom until quite recently. The students, in fact, played a crucial role, through street demonstrations, in influencing Sukarno's decision to step down and in ushering in Suharto's New Order regime in 1966. This freedom, however, came to a stop after an embarrassing anti-Tanaka riot in Jakarta, when the then Japanese prime minister was on an official visit to the country. The government soon created the National Youth Committee (KNPI), through which it hoped to regulate the activities of the various youth organisations.

While these regulations have placed the youth and students under strict government supervision, the 1983 congressional decision on the sole foundation principle would put them under ideological control. It was objection to this plan that probably led the HMI congress to reaffirm Islam as its organisational principle.

UI BEGINS OPSPEK COURSES FOR FRESHMEN

Upgraded Pancasila Courses

Jakarta KOMPAS in Indonesian 25 Jul 83 p 6

[Excerpt] The University of Indonesia (UI) OPSPEK (studies and campus orientation program) will begin tomorrow [26 July] in the Senayan Sports Stadium. On this occasion OPSPEK will include P4 [Pancasila upgrading] courses which will be taught by no fewer than 700 instructors. Prof Dr W.A.F.J. Tumbelaka, assistant rector I, who was accompanied by UI deans and the secretary to the assistant rector III, provided this information during a press conference held at the UI Rawamangun campus in Jakarta on Saturday [23 July]. He noted that this is a full 13-day course. Those who pass the course which replaces the regular university Pancasila lecture series will receive two university credits. About 100 hours will be devoted to the course. "During this course there will be no speeches or in-depth analyses while the Pancasila lectures are planned to educate the students in the nation's history," Tumbelaka disclosed. It was revealed that 700 instructors will be involved in this course. The UI has obtained the assistance of instructors from the Central BP-7 [7 educations] Committee (20 instructors), the Special Capital Region of Jakarta BP-7 (220 instructors) and 200 from the UI plus 80 students who have passed the P4 course. "The students will work with the instructors, and it is planned that R. Suprpto, governor of the Special Capital Region of Jakarta, will also provide some instruction," Tumbelaka disclosed. Two thousand freshmen will attend the course which will be held from morning until night. They will be divided into 10 groups. Classes will meet all over the UI faculty complexes in both Rawamangua and Salemba.

Academic Sanctions Announced

Jakarta MERDEKA in Indonesian 25 Jul 83 pp 1, 11

[Article: "Freshmen Who Fail To Participate in P4 Will Be Subject to Academic Sanctions"]

[Text] Prof W.A.J.F. Tumbelaka, assistant rector of the University of Indonesia (PUREK UI), explained that freshmen in the class of 1984 at the University of Indonesia who do not participate in the P4 [Pancasila upgrading]

course will be subject to academic sanctions because this course is a mandatory intracurricular or academic activity for UI freshmen this year. UI freshmen who pass the P4 100-hour course will not have to take the usual Pancasila lecture series and will receive 2 credits for this new course.

Tumbelaka gave this information to reporters on Saturday [23 July] at the UI Rawamangun campus in East Jakarta. In announcing this news, he was accompanied by other PUREK's as well as all UI deans and the director of the university's public relations office.

"Academic sanctions levied on those who do not participate in the P4 course consist of prohibiting them from attending university classes for 1 year or other sanctions still being considered," Tumbelaka said, explaining, "Of course, we shall first take into account why a student could not participate in the course. If it appears to be because of illness, corroborated by a doctor, for instance, the individual may be excused but he must take the course next year."

This year's P4 course for UI freshmen is an academic exercise included in a package along with the OPSPEK [studies and campus orientation program] (which replaces MAPRAM [students orientation period]). Classes will be held for 13 days beginning 26 July and will involve 600 Central and Special Capital Region BP-7 [7 educations] Committee instructors as well as UI instructors and about 20,000 [as published] freshmen who will be divided into 10 groups.

With the standard of 100 hours of classes, passing students will be considered to have covered the basic Pancasila course for which 100 hours of lectures are also given at the UI. They, therefore, will not have to take this lecture series in subsequent semesters. Consideration is being given to the handling of students who do not pass the P4 course. They may be required to repeat the course next year. However, the UI leadership "expects" all students to pass the course, particularly this year.

Prof Dr Nugroho Notosusanto, minister of education and culture also rector of the UI, during the first briefing to the press on this matter, last week said if the course is judged to have been successful, the 100-hour P4 course will be included in the curricula of state and private higher education institutions in the coming years. "UI students who have taken the P4 course at BP-7's in the past years seem to have changed for the better and to have been a positive influence at the UI," the assistant rector I disclosed.

Students who pass the type A [pancasila lectures] course are entitled to become Pancasila instructors while those who pass the 100-hour P4 course are not.

6804

CSO: 4213/536

LEGAL AID FOUNDATION CALLS FOR END TO 'MYSTERIOUS SHOOTINGS'

Jakarta KOMPAS in Indonesian 26 Jul 83 pp 1, 5

[Article: "Legal Aid Foundation's Opinion on the Mysterious Gunmen"]

[Text] The Indonesian Legal Aid Foundation (LBH) appeals to the government, Parliament and law enforcement elements to take steps to stop the mysterious shooting operation to insure the country's future. This statement was made in a letter dated 25 July, written by LBH and signed by the executive manager, Abd. Hakim Nusantara.

The letter was prepared in response to the opinion advanced by Amirmachmud, People's Consultative Congress and Parliament speaker, who personally supports the mysterious shootings, and the statement of Yoga Sugomo, BAKIN [State Intelligence Coordinating Agency] chairman, who did not question the murder of people by the mysterious gunmen. "A statement which approves of wasting the lives of this country's citizens is clearly irresponsible, and it can only be viewed as destroying the principles as well as the foundations of a law-abiding country," the LBH letter said.

It clarified that the Indonesian people struggled together to establish a law-abiding country and opposed any measures that violated legal principles as well as human rights. The spark for these principles was ignited by the birth of Pancasila and the 1945 Constitution and the struggle has been reopened since the beginning of the New Order. Therefore, LBH judges that every patriot wants to hold fast to these principles.

Negative Impact

The support by officeholders for these mysterious shootings, whether official, unofficial or personal, is judged to have a negative impact not only on the development of law in our homeland but also on the ideals of the Indonesian people and nation, which is known to be a civilized nation. Whereas Indonesia promised to be a civilized nation when it became a member of the United Nations in 1950.

According to LBH, the increase in crimes is a social symptom which must be attended to by developing a preventive strategy and a comprehensive, rational as well as responsible solution in accordance with Pancasila and the 1945

Constitution. The LBH did not put forth any concrete proposals regarding the measures which should be taken except to say that the dispensing of justice through these mysterious shootings, to a great extent, destroys ethical, theoretical and social values.

According to the Indonesian LBH, the increase in the number of victims of these mysterious shootings raises the possibility that more and widely-scattered, extra-legal executions will occur under this program and will be deleterious to sociocultural development in the homeland.

6804

CSO: 4213/536

HMI LEADERS DISCUSS PANCASILA PRINCIPLES

Jakarta KOMPAS in Indonesian 26 Jul 83 pp 1, 12

[Article: "HMI Will Not Betray Pancasila"]

[Text] National interests or Pancasila principles in the national consensus formulation, will not be betrayed by the Islamic Students Association (HMI). This is the responsible view of HMI on Pancasila principles and HMI places them in an honored position in the preface to its by-laws.

On Sunday evening [24 July] at the end of the Lebaran family forgiveness day ceremony held in the auditorium of the Agung Al Azhar Mosque, H. Harry Azhar Aziz, general chairman of the HMI board of directors, introduced the 1983-85 HMI board of directors. It consists of 32 members.

The general chairman is H. Harry Azhar Aziz (grade V student at the Industrial Management College of the Department of Industry, born in Tanjungpinang on 25 April 1956) while the secretary general is Alex Tofani (grade V student in the Economics Faculty of North Sumatra University, born in Lhokseumawe, Aceh, on 4 October 1956).

In addition there are five chairmen, respectively, Zulvan Z.B. Lindan, Mohammad Iqbal Santese, Luthfi Ali Bachmid, Monang Jihado Harahap and Iin Zaimah. The general treasurer is Ninich Lantara. Board personnel were installed on Monday evening in the HMI PB [board of directors] building at 16 Diponegere Street, Jakarta, by the general chairman who chaired the 15th HMI Congress held in Medan from 21 to 29 May.

Open Dialogue and Cooperation

Harry Azhar Aziz pointed out that while HMI holds that belief in Islam is the organization's basic tenet, it does not mean that HMI is closed to dialogue and cooperation in educating people with the same ideals. With Islam HMI is precisely better able to offer the best participation in the way society is to be conducted as is recorded in the history of our struggle, especially since HMI was formed in 1947.

In recorded history, it is precisely with Islam that HMI has been able to do more for national interests because Islam can be maintained and become

widespread in a country which looks after its national interests. Those interests were formulated in what is called the national consensus.

Preface to the HMI By-Laws

The HMI view which holds Pancasila high, the general chairman said, is clearly set out in the preface to the HMI by-laws. In one line, it reads in full as follows: "Islamic students, as the nation's youth who are aware of their rights and obligations as well as their roles and responsibilities toward mankind and the nation, are determined to offer themselves to their country to realize the laws of the One and only God, a just and civilized human race, a united Indonesia, a democracy led through wise policies and consultation and representation as well as to realize social justice for all the people of Indonesia within the context of service to Allah, the One God."

Thus, Harry Azhar said, the HMI organizational rules do not approve of *menafikan* (rejecting--editor) Pancasila principles because, in the HMI view, Pancasila as the ideological basis of the state is to be respected. Moreover, according to the HMI view, it is not to be respected only when it is linked to achieving the approval of Allah, the one God. "These basic views were the essence of the discussions at the 15th HMI Congress. Based on these discussions, programs were created for work needed to be done by the HMI board for the 1403-05 H. [1983-85] period. We, therefore, implore all those who need proof consistent with the facts to pray."

Dahlan Ranuwihardjo

Meanwhile A. Dahlan Ranuwihardjo, former general chairman of the HMI PB from 1952-54, who was invited to give the welcoming address representing the alumni, gave his personal opinion on the problems faced by HMI. "If HMI were an organization of selfish, crybaby or spoiled young people, dependent on their fathers..., why would I respond to their invitation to give a welcoming address?" he said prefacing his address.

He pointed out that from the Independence Proclamation of 1945 to 1950 many institutions or organizations were established but, at the present time, only only two of these organizations remain intact as they were when they were founded and continue playing a role in, as well as integrating themselves into, Indonesia's state development based on the 17 August 1945 proclamation. "I say these two organizations are the TNI [Indonesian National Army] and the HMI. This is historical fact and is not presented to you in arrogance, conceit or to demean any other organization."

The TNI, the Army in particular, and HMI, Dahlan said, historically worked together for the republic, in both joy and sorrow, and in confronting the first Dutch attack in July 1947, the second in December 1948, the first PKI [Indonesian Communist Party] rebellion in 1948 and in other confrontations.

He pointed out that TNI is not a coalition of Dutch (KNIL [Royal Dutch-Indian Army]) and Republic of Indonesia military men. So also, HMI is not a coalition of Muslim organizations or university student organizations established by Van Mook.

Dahlan said early in the 1950's, when the public was passionately questioning the state's ideological basis, HMI in 1952 linked itself to the country's political life and offered a response, namely, that it was not right and a big mistake to place Islam and Pancasila in confrontation. Even now HMI does not doubt this. "So if anyone questions the Pancasila position in the HMI equaties, the answer is, 'Read the preface to the HMI by-laws.' So what if it is not mentioned there explicitly. Yes, this is the heart of the problem: it is not mentioned there explicitly. So be it."

HMI just follows what is stated in the preface and in the body of the 1945 Constitution because the word Pancasila does not appear in the Constitution either, the former member of Parliament said.

He stressed that in the past, before any young person understood and experienced Pancasila through a P4 [Pancasila upgrading] course, HMI had wrestled with it for 36 years, understood it and experienced it. So, HMI has matured in Pancasila. It expects that in this Pancasila land no measures will be taken that conflict with Pancasila itself such as the sole principle which MENPORA Abdul Gafur wants to institute for mass organizations.

"I make this appeal to my younger brothers whom I love. Let it not be said that because I cannot accept Pancasila as the sole principle that I am said to be anti-Pancasila, moreover, if this is translated as a slur aimed at HMI. That is not right," Dahlan Ranuwihardjo said.

6804

CSO: 4213/536

EDITORIAL CALLS FOR BETTER PRESENTATION OF ECONOMIC POLICIES

Kuching SARAWAK TRIBUNE in English 8 Aug 83 p 2

[Editorial: "The New Policies"]

[Text]

The Prime Minister, Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamed, has introduced a remarkable number of new policies in the short period that he has been Prime Minister and already the efforts of these are being felt throughout the country.

In many cases, the new policies are quite simple to understand, even by the ordinary man in the street. Other policies — the Look East Policy, the Malaysia Incorporated Concept and the Privatisation Policy on the other hand — are somewhat more complex in their concepts, so much so that even some members of the government have tended to misinterpret just what these policies actually entail.

To overcome this problem, the Prime Minister has now issued a circular to all heads of government departments explaining in greater detail just what these policies actually involve.

This is a sensible move but it could well be taken further. If senior civil

servants require clarification on these policies then it is safe to say that members of the public also need to have these policies explained to them in a way that will enable them to comprehend the full meaning of each of them.

If, therefore, the government could give more publicity about each of these new policies through the newspapers and on TV then it would go a long way towards enlightening the general public.

As it is now, certain political parties are endeavouring to confuse the people by twisting the meaning of these policies in an effort to turn people against the government. If greater efforts were made to explain these policies then obviously such a ploy would be thwarted.

That there is a certain lack of understanding on the part of the public can be explained by the fact that so many new policies have been introduced in such a short space of time. Usually,

new policies are introduced at fairly lengthy intervals and thus there is plenty of time to explain them to the public, one at a time. Of late, however, we have seen one new policy being introduced hot on the heels of the other and this gives the general public little time to assimilate each of them in turn.

If, therefore, something could be done to present each of these new policies to the public in a clear and easily understood manner then this would go a long way to removing any doubts and confusion that many be in the minds of many.

In most cases, the public is directly involved in these new policies in one way or another. Thus, if their involvement is to be complete and wholehearted, it is important that they first be given a thorough understanding of what the policies are all about.

EFFECTS OF BUDGET CUTS IN GOVERNMENT DETAILED

Kuala Lumpur NEW STRAITS TIMES 7 Aug 83 p 1

[Text] Kuala Lumpur, Sat. -- Budget cuts in the Government are adversely affecting enforcement by many departments and agencies.

Activities of some of these authorities are almost paralysed and field officers are grounded in their offices. They include:

- Ministry of Trade and Industry: 90 per cent of the officers have been assigned to desk jobs;
- Factories and Machinery Department: there is a backlog of 9,000 statutory inspections and surprise checks have "priority";
- Ministry of Housing: enforcement is done through the mail whenever possible;
- Department of Environment: an SOS has gone to the Treasury to pay the allowances of 43 new officers who joined in May;
- Ministry of Health: the flying doctor service is cut by half, field trips are made usually departmental vehicles only; and
- General Hospital: No funds to replace or repair broken down equipment.

But the austerity drive also has a positive side. With less funds, Government officers are learning better housekeeping and thrift.

Work is better programmed to ensure maximum utilisation of limited funds.

Most departments can no longer afford to go to the source of every complaint. Instead they are writing to the local authorities wherever the latter can tackle the problems effectively.

In unavoidable circumstances, field visits are being fitted in with other scheduled trips.

Each field trip is being stretched - for instance, environment officers visiting palm oil mills in a locality are asked to keep a lookout for open-burning activities and other pollution problems on their way.

POSSIBLE PRIVATE SECTOR HANDLING OF PORT MAINTENANCE STUDIED

Kuching THE BORNEO POST in English 9 Aug 83 p 2

[Text]

PORT KELANG, Mon:— The Transport Ministry is studying the possibility of farming out port equipment maintenance work to the private sector, deputy Transport Minister Datuk Abu Hassan Omar said today.

He said the maintenance of port equipment had been identified as one of the public services which could be run by private firms in line with the government's privatization concept.

The ministry has now drawing up a list of public services to be farmed out to the private sector for cabinet approval, he told reporters after opening a course at

the Kelang Port Authority (KPA) office here.

He said the Ministry would also be calling representatives of the private sector to discuss the viability of private firms doing maintenance work for port equipment.

On the government's recent directive that measures be taken to ease the congestion of container boxes at Port Kelang, Datuk Abu Hassan said it was too early to judge the results.

He expected the measures to bear results from middle of this week and said that either he or officials from the transport ministry would be visiting the port this

weekend to see the effect of the directive.

Deputy Prime Minister Datuk Musa Hitam had announced last Thursday immediate and long term measures to ease the pile-up of container boxes at the port including allowing overtime for Customs officers until 11 p.m. every day two weeks.

He also directed the Customs Department to ensure that there were enough officers on duty.

KPA Director General Encik Hashir Abdullah said the port's immediate target was to reduce the pile-up to about 1,000 container boxes from 1,800 boxes last Saturday. — Bernama

9201

CSO: 4200/852

EDITORIAL URGES BUMIPUTRA INVOLVEMENT IN TECHNOLOGY TRANSFER

Kuching THE BORNEO POST in English 9 Aug 83 p 2

[Editorial: "Technology Transfer"]

[Text]

The Prime Minister Dato Seri Dr. Mahathir Mohamad wants Bumiputras taking part in joint venture projects to ensure that they derive benefits of transfer of technology. When launching the Taman Shamelin Perkasa, the \$500 million project developed

by Syarikat Kimali Construction (a joint-venture between Shamelin Cooperative and Nyundai Engineering of South Korea), Dr. Mahathir urged the Bumiputras to participate fully in all aspects of the project and made it clear that he did not want 'Ali Baba' projects which is meaningless as all the work would be

done by their foreign partners. In Ali Baba arrangement the Bumiputras may have a share of the profits but are 'sleeping' partners lagging behind in technical know-how both in the management and construction skill. It is important that Bumiputras must be prepared to acquire the management skills as well as that of engineering and construction and share their experiences with their partners.

Dr. Mahathir singled out the failure of Bumiputra enterprises as mainly due to

weaknesses in management. Therefore Bumiputra businessmen should work hard if they want to be successful. They should try their

best to learn all the technology of their counterparts from the top management down to the construction and engineering work in the field. Bumiputra businessmen should go for reality and not on rough calculation. The people should be thankful to Dr. Mahathir's far-sightedness for not only the Bumiputras will benefit from the technology transfer but also the country as a whole.

Here the Bumiputras will be able to contribute towards the achievements of the government's objectives in the New Economic Policy. The success of the transfer of technology can put our country one step forward in terms of technology. With such 'tool' in our hands, Malaysia will be less dependent on other countries for technological and engineering assistance. The Bumiputras should grasp the opportunity and really put in their heart to learn. It is their pride to show that they can do as well as others in industrial projects.

PM URGES ACTIVE BUMIPUTRA INVOLVEMENT IN JOINT VENTURES

Kuching SARAWAK TRIBUNE in English 8 Aug 83 p 1

[Text]

Kuala Lumpur, Sun.— Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad today urged Bumiputera entrepreneurs to ensure that they would derive benefits of the transfer of technology in every joint venture project.

This could only be achieved through full participation in all aspects of the projects concerned, right from the management level to the lowest level, he said.

Profits should not be the primary consideration, the Prime Minister said when he launched the Taman Shamelin Perkasa here.

The \$500 million project is developed by the Syarikat Kimali Constructions, a joint venture between the Shamelin Cooperative and Hyundai Engineering of South Korea.

Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir stressed that it would be meaningless to have joint ventures with foreign firms if all the work was done by the foreign partner.

The implications of such projects were similar to the other "Ali-Baba" projects, he said.

The Prime Minister said he wanted Shamelin, as a Bumiputera cooperative, to lead the way for the other Bumiputera industries by taking an active part in the giant joint venture project.

It should ensure that Bumiputeras not only occupy executive positions but also be actively involved in all aspects of the project, including the engineering and construction levels.

"I will personally visit the project from time to time to see that this objective is achieved", he said.

He said that it was only through overall participation that the Bumiputeras would be able to raise their management skills.

The Prime Minister said that the Bumiputeras' progress in trade and industry was hindered by their weaknesses in management and administration.

EXPERIENCE

He said the government could assist by providing the facilities and the opportunities and by becoming clients in fields that where the public response was not good.

However, many Bumiputera enterprises failed because of weaknesses in management, he said.

Bumiputera entrepreneurs should learn from their partners the techniques of management including the correct choice of equipment and machinery for each project.

With this knowledge and experience, they would be able to carry out projects on their own in the future.

Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir criticised some Bumiputera entrepreneurs who only cared about their own profits without giving a thought to whether their partners lost out in the deal or whether the whole project would fail.

Some of them fixed the percentage of the profits or the profits in terms of millions of ringgit before the project began and then handed over the entire project to their partners.

Such businesses were not businesses in the real sense but only businesses on a commission basis, he added.

NO DIFFICULTY

Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir said that an entrepreneur who was willing to work 24 hours a day and who was sincere would have no difficulty in building up this business.

He should fulfill his promises and pledges

to complete a project on time, he said.

Banks would not hesitate to give loans to him if he is prompt in repaying his loans.

The Prime Minister said that Bumiputeras who failed to repay their loans to the banks should be imposed heavier penalties than non-Bumiputera borrowers.

They not only disgraced their firms and themselves but also the whole Bumiputera entrepreneur community and prevent others from obtaining loans for their projects.

The Prime Minister said that the Bumiputera community should show to the other communities that they were just as capable of handling any industrial project as the other communities if not better.

Only then would the community's honour be preserved and the community be respected by others, he said.

— Bernama.

BUMIPUTRAS TO GET PRIORITY IN JOINT AUTOMOTIVE VENTURES

Kuching SARAWAK TRIBUNE 8 Aug 83 p 1

[Text]

Kuala Lumpur, Sun.- Companies with at least 30 per cent Bumiputera participation will be given priority in the production of components for the national car project, Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad said today.

These companies, he said, had to prove they had the capability to produce such parts, he told reporters here.

This was in line with the requirements of the New Economic Policy (NEP).

The Prime Minister said it was not true that the government was only considering using components manufactured by Bumiputera-controlled companies for the Malaysian car project.

He was clarifying reports quoting the Deputy Trade and Industry Ministry Haji Muhyiddin Yassin as saying that it was the government's policy to utilise components made locally by Bumi-

putera manufacturers.

The Deputy Minister was actually referring to Bumiputera joint-venture companies producing such components, he added.

Datuk Seri Dr. Mahathir said that in line with the NEP, the government would like to see Bumiputera participated in the production of car components.

He said that everything being equal, the company with greater Bumiputera participation would certainly be given the priority.

STEPS TAKEN TO OVERCOME TRADE BARRIERS

Kuala Lumpur NEW STRAITS TIMES in English 4 Aug 83 p 4

[Text] Malaysia has stepped up trade co-operation with Asean and South American countries to reduce its dependency on traditional markets.

Trade and Industry Minister Tengku Ahmad Rithauddeen said the possibility of selling more manufactured goods to the South Pacific islands and Muslim countries in West Asia was also being explored.

This was one way of countering the protectionist trade barriers put up by developed countries such as the United States, Japan and the European Economic Community.

Tengku Ahmad said the Government had also embarked on an aggressive approach to locate and penetrate new markets.

Third party

He was replying to Mr Peter Chin Guan Oon (BN-Ipoh) who wanted to know the measures taken by the Government to overcome the trade barriers against Malaysia's export items.

The Minister urged the private sector to take the cue from the Government's approach.

"In the past, we depended on multi-national companies to market our goods. We had always depended on a third party. With the new approach, changes have been evident in the last few years. We are now selling more of our manufactured goods on our own."

Tengku Ahmad said the private sector should organise more trade missions on their own and not to wait for the Government to do this.

Shipping

He said the lack of shipping facilities had hampered efforts to increase trade with countries such as India and Pakistan.

He said trade barriers, both tariff and non-tariff had had an adverse effect on rubber, timber and oil-palm based manufactured goods and textiles.

Malaysia had brought up the issue of protectionist trade policies at international trade forums such as the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (Unctad) and the General Agreement on Trade and Tariffs (Gatt).

SPENDING CUTS TO FORCE POSTPONEMENT, SCRAPPING OF PROJECTS

Kuala Lumpur NEW STRAITS TIMES in English 5 Aug 83 p 1

[Text]

KUALA LUMPUR, Thurs. — Datuk Musa Hitam announced today that the Government has decided on substantial cutbacks in development and operating expenditure which will force both big and medium economic projects to be either postponed or abandoned.

The Deputy Prime Minister cautioned that these cutbacks would "bite hard" and have far-reaching implications for the public and private sectors, and especially for the people.

Opening the 30th Asean Chambers of Commerce and

Industry (ACCI) council meeting here, he said the decision was a difficult one to make but the Government had no alternative but to trim its expenditure in the face of the current (world) recession.

"A few days ago, we went through our list of development projects with a fine-toothed comb and made certain decisions to postpone not only big and medium economic projects but also make cutbacks in the expenditure related to administration," he said.

Implications

Although Datuk Musa did not specify the projects involved, it is understood that the cutbacks would be made soon under the mid-term review of the Fourth Malaysia Plan.

"The implications have to be

accepted and the problems have to be faced squarely," he added.

The Deputy Prime Minister, who is also the chairman of the Cabinet Committee on Asean Economy, said the recession had been one of the biggest problems stifling Asean economic development.

"The recession is forever staring us in the face and threatening all of us in Asean, but all actions taken to contain the problems have been unilateral."

In view of the political implications and the threat to the security of the region caused by recession, he called on the private and public sectors within Asean to compare notes so that economic co-operation in the region could move in a more effective manner. — Bernama.

9201

CSO: 4200/850

MALAYSIA

CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT BILL PASSED

Kuching THE BORNEO POST in English 4 Aug 83 p 1

[Text] Kuala Lumpur, Wed:--The Dewan Rakyat today approved without any change the Constitutional Amendment Bill which among other things provides for increase of seats in the Dewan Rakyat and State Legislative Assemblies.

A total of 136 of the 145 members of the Dewan Rakyat voted in support of the Bill. The nine DAP opposition members voted against.

Among the supporters of the Bill are independents and representatives of the Parti Hizbulmuslimin (Hamin).

The House also rejected a motion by opposition whip Encik Lim Kit Siang (DAP-Kota Melaka) seeking to refer the Bill to the parliamentary select committee before approval.

In winding up the debate, Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr. Mahathir Mohamad refuted an allegation by the opposition leader that the government had been arbitrary in amending the constitution.

Not Clear

He said that because of the need to amend the constitution to provide for more seats in the Dewan Rakyat and State Assemblies, the government also took the opportunity to amend other sections of the constitution which were not clear.

Explaining the background leading to the move, he said that legislative representation of residents of rural areas has been neglected since the colonial period.

Representatives to the Legislative Council at that time were appointed from among urban residents who did not bother much about the problems of the rural population, he added.

After the country gained independence, the government found that the anomaly perpetrated by the colonialists for over a hundred years needed to be rectified.

Datuk Seri Dr. Mahathir said rural Parliamentary constituencies were harder to look after than urban Parliamentary constituencies.

For instance, the Lipis constituency in Pahang was as big as the state of Negeri Sembilan, he added.

In determining the largeness of constituency, the population dispersal and topographical condition were also taken into account apart from the size of the electorate.

9201

CSO: 4200/850

EDITORS SURPRISED BY MINISTER'S STATEMENT ON BERNAMA ISSUE

Kuala Lumpur NEW STRAITS TIMES in English 4 Aug 83 p 1

[Text]

KUALA LUMPUR, Wed. — Newspaper editors today expressed astonishment at Information Minister Datuk Seri Mohamed Adib Adam's reply in Parliament yesterday on the issue of Bernama becoming the sole distributor of foreign news from transnational agencies.

In a statement, the editors said that they could not understand how the Minister could leave the impression that the Bernama move had the full agreement of newspaper representatives "when we have made abundantly clear to the Minister our opposition to the move."

The editors said Datuk Seri Adib's reply did not reflect the current position and "could very well mislead the public".

While they perfectly understood the need to reply to a question raised in Parliament, the editors deplored the Minister's departure from an understanding not to expand on the matter in public.

The Minister of Informa-

tion should have replied to the question raised by Dr Koh Yoo Koh (BN — Tanjong) by recording the fact that newspaper owners and editors have expressed strong opposition to the Bernama move and that the matter is being considered further.

"Instead, he took the opportunity to justify the Bernama move by using a combination of emotional and half-explained arguments."

"We have compelling political, legal, factual and procedural arguments against the move, including arguments against all those put forward by the Minister in his parliamentary reply. However, we do not wish to have a Press war over the issue, as we agreed with the Minister. We will submit our views to the proper authorities in due time," the statement added.

The editors further said that they had the full support of almost all editors in Malaysia, including those in Sabah and Sarawak — contrary to the impression that may have been created by Bernama reports. However they believed in honouring the understanding with the Minister of Information by pursuing the matter without publicity.

In a separate statement today the Malaysian Newspaper Publishers Association reiterated its opposition to the Bernama move.

EDITORIAL SUPPORTS AUSTERITY DRIVE

Kuching THE BORNEO POST in English 3 Aug 83 p 2

[Editorial: "Tighten the Belt"]

[Text]

Eversince the Federal government started to take the austerity measures last year, it saved about \$3,793 million. The spending cuts in the government definitely have a positive effect on the national budget. The world recession has affected the economy of the country and although there are now signs of improvement in the world recession, it is wise for the government to continue the economy drive. A cent saved is a cent gained for the country. Therefore, it is necessary that the government remains thrifty and continues to tighten the belt. Despite the economy drive last year and government departments facing financial problems, their services to the public were not affected much and there was no breakdown of services. The government servants still continue to function well although there may be a few grouses from some of them.

As last year's economy drive proved to be successful, the Prime Minister recently announced a move to minimise government expenditures which include a limited mileage claims by civil servants. The use of electricity and telephones is to be cut down in all

government departments. The government is introducing a re-usable envelopes which can be used for many times. Such move to minimise expenditure to a single government office may mean little, but taking the country as a whole, we definitely can save substantially. However, the 'saving scheme' depends very much on the civil servants' attitude towards the property and resources. The civil servants should not have "won't be bother" attitude. Electricity, water and stationery bills can be cut down if the authorities concerned are thrifty. There have been cases where faulty taps are not repaired allowing water to run freely and lights are on for 24 hours. And many a time, equipments brought are not being utilised fully. The people must be aware that up to December 1982, the national debt is \$40.9 billion. However we have the assurance from the Finance Minister Tengku Razaleigh Hamzah that the government has the means to settle the debts. Definitely the people would appreciate the government's move to spend less because ultimately the money comes from the taxpayers.

COUNTRY PREPARES FOR SKILLED LABOR SHORTAGE

Kuching SARAWAK TRIBUNE in English 2 Aug 83 p 15

[Article by Anne Koh]

[Text] Singapore, Mon. Bernama ES -- With several high technology, sophisticated and heavy industries coming on stream in Malaysia in a couple of years or so, planners are worried -- and rightfully so -- about the availability of skilled workers to run them.

In the pipeline are the projects of the Heavy Industries Corporation of Malaysia (HICOM) such as the light-engine project, the aluminium die-casting factory, the pulp and paper factory, the engineering complex and the cold roll project.

Under implementation or about to be implemented are the national car project, the cement factory in Pulau Langkawi and a steel bar project.

"Our industrialisation is taking place very rapidly and we need very skilled and highly trained workers. We need to be prepared now," Trade and Industry Minister Tengku Ahmad Rithauddeen told Bernama while on a short visit to Singapore last week.

Indeed, it is his anxiety to see that Malaysia starts preparing now to brace itself for a demand for such skilled

workers that prompts him to visit the republic to see how the vocational and industrial training programmes are run here.

Tengku Rithauddeen said, that besides the HICOM industries, there would be many ancillary industries that would crop up to complement them and these all need workers who are properly trained.

He also pointed to the rapid development taking place over on the East Coast, especially in Terengganu such as the gas project in Kerteh and Petronas' refinery and oil exploration activities.

"Yes, Terengganu is undergoing tremendous changes," State Secretary, Encik Mazlan Hashim, who accompanied Tengku Rithauddeen to Singapore, said.

TRAINING

He envisaged that the

state would need at least 500 workers when projects come on stream by 1985 and wondered where they were to come from unless something was done about providing the training facilities now.

Encik Mazlan said that by 1985, industries expected to come on stream in Terengganu are the liquefied petroleum gas plant, the sponge iron project, gas processing and the gas-fired generator of the National Electricity Board (NEB).

"Then, we will be needing skilled workers such as welders, dye and tool-makers and casters, machinists, those skilled in mechanical and electrical installations and also in handling sophisticated precision instruments," he added.

While it is true that Malaysia has vocational schools, the workers they produce would not

be suitable for the needs of the sophisticated industries since the courses they learn are in lesser skills such as woodwork, carpentry and other elementary training in trades.

IDEAL

Tengku Rithauddeen was impressed with the facilities offered at the government-run Tata Government Training Institute in Jurong.

The institute was set up in 1972 and costs S\$9.2 million. Thirty-two instructors from the giant Indian industrial group, Tata, provide theory and practical training to some four batches of 120 apprentices each.

These apprentices undertake two-year courses mainly in two areas — machining and dyeing and tool-casting.

At the end of their training, they are automatically absorbed by industries under an arrangement which the

Economic Development Board (EDB) has with the private sector.

Encik Mazlan thinks that an outfit like the Tata Government Training Institute is ideal for Malaysia.

Bernama ES understands that in fact, Tata's principals in India had approached the Malaysian Government recently offering to help set up a similar facility in the country.

Tengku Rithauddeen has asked State Government officials to look into its siting in Trengganu.

The Minister also visited one of the training institutes conducted by the Vocational and Industrial Training Board (VITB) which offers apprenticeship training in over 40 trades.

Some of them are mechanical/engineering, electronics and electrical transport, printing, ship-building/repairing, construction, hotel and wood-based industries.

9201

CSO: 4200/849

MALAYSIA

EDITORIAL SUPPORTS 'MALAYSIAN CAR' PROJECT

Kuching SARAWAK TRIBUNE in English 3 Aug 83 p 2

[Editorial: "The Malaysian Car"]

[Text] There were quite a lot of cynical comments voiced when the Prime Minister, Datuk Seri Dr. Mahathir first announced plans to build a 'Malaysian' car. Some felt that Malaysia lacked the expertise, others felt that such a car would not be able to compete against imports, that there would be a strong consumer prejudice in favour of imported models and so on.

There was also a worry that the government, in effort to ensure the success of this project, would restrict the import of foreign cars or place limits on the assembly within Malaysia of foreign brands.

It was gratifying therefore, to learn from Parliamentary reports recently that the government has no intention of restricting car imports or the market of the local car assembly industry. Rather, the government will rely on the fact that the Malaysian car will be cheaper than other makers to enable it to grab a fair share of the market for cars.

All in all, the made-in-Malaysia car project should prove to be a considerable boost to Malaysian industry even though, in the initial stages, the percentage of locally manufactured components will be relatively small.

Not only will the project generate a large number of jobs but it will also encourage the growth of a large number of supportive industries set up to provide various components for the car. This will mean a gradual increase in the amount of locally manufactured components and a consequent saving large sums of foreign exchange.

In addition, new skills will be acquired by Malaysian industries and workers which may well lead to new markets being opened up for Malaysian finished products.

The project, when implemented, will help to enhance Malaysia's national pride but this project is not merely a showpiece or a white elephant. Studies commissioned by the government have shown conclusively that the project is viable in itself and will also encourage the growth of a number of supportive industries.

There seems no doubt that Malaysia is sufficiently developed to be able to make a success of this project. But the biggest stumbling block perhaps will be with the Malaysian consumer. It yet remains to be seen whether the Malaysian car buyer will accept the made-in-Malaysia car or whether he will turn his nose up at it in preference for a foreign model, irregardless of the quality of the local product. In all probability, a major effort will have to be made to convince brand-conscious Malaysians that the local product is comparable in quality to anything brought in from abroad.

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CS0: 4200/849

MCA WELCOMES MERGER WITH ANY MALAYSIAN CHINESE PARTY

Selangor SIN CHEW JIT POH MALAYSIA in Chinese 25 Jun 83 p 18

[Text] Datuk Lee Kim Sye, general chairman of the Malaysian Chinese Youth League and deputy minister in the Prime Minister's Department, stated that the Malaysian Chinese Association [MCA] welcomes proposals to merge with any political party as long as such merger will foster Malaysian Chinese unity.

He said that MCA adopts an open door attitude, and even if the idea of a merger comes from an opposition party, it will equally be welcome as long as it will lead to greater solidarity among the Chinese.

Datuk Lee added that the Malays have their United Malays National Organization [UMNO], so perhaps we Chinese should have a "United Chinese National Organization" as our united front.

He made these remarks during a political seminar organized by an MCA branch in a southern suburb of Pasing.

Datuk Lee held that if the Chinese cannot maintain a balance of political strength with other friendly nationalities, we will often be at a disadvantage, "Maintaining the balance does not mean a confrontation, and MCA wants to play the role of holding this balance."

We must regard the problem of nationality as a national problem, he stressed. Among the younger Malaysian generation, apparently problems have cropped up affecting mutual understanding on racial matters. Our attitude in handling any incident is that we must aim our attention at the problem, and not getting emotional.

Datuk Lee said that Malaysia's situation is very realistic. It is not realistic for opposition parties to flaunt the banner of racial equality. Ideal is ideal. Opposition parties often criticize the Chinese, yet they cannot get any vote in a Malay electoral district.

He said that if Lim Kit Siang's idea of "Malaysia for Malaysians" works, 90 percent of the student body in our five universities should be Chinese. That's like building a castle in the air. It's simply unrealistic.

Datuk Lee stated the Malays can claim that they and the UMNO are one and synonymous. But we Chinese cannot say that we and the MCA are "one for all and all for one." To reach this goal, we must change our attitude drastically in viewing and understanding certain problems. A case in point would be an attempt at merging MCA with GERAKAN [Gerakan Rakyat Malaysia, Malaysian People's Movement].

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CSO: 4205/10

COMMENTARY ON INTERNAL DISSENSION IN SARAWAK NATIONAL PARTY

Selanger SIN CHEW JIT POH MALAYSIA in Chinese 26 Jun 83 p 7

[Text] By a vote of 13 to 4, the central executive committee of the Sarawak National Party [SNAP] on 19 June expelled Dhani Dachan, SNAP vice chairman and concurrently Sarawak's deputy chief minister. The expulsion from party membership has turned white-hot the party's internal dissension which has been brewing since the parliamentary elections in April last year.

Explaining the expulsion, Party Chairman Datuk Wee Kim Beng and Secretary General Parang Sirin said that Dhani Dachan had violated party discipline and sabotaged party unity. They found fault with him because he backed SNAP-expelled independent politicians who opposed SNAP candidates during last year's elections.

Within the SNAP Executive Committee, only four members supported Dhani and objected to the party's expulsion order. They are Datuk Leo Moggie, minister of energy, telecommunications and posts; Keramon Juna, deputy minister in the Prime Minister's Department; Jonathan Sabai, a state assemblyman; and Dra Tinda, chairperson of SNAP's women's division. From this meager support, it may be seen that Dhani held a weak position in the party's central committee leadership. It is amazing, however, that Dhani managed to win the support of 10 SNAP members in the state assembly and 4 others in the national parliament. (SNAP holds 16 seats in the state assembly and 6 in the parliament). Consequently, politicians generally believe that despite his expulsion from SNAP membership, Dhani has a latent force which must not be ignored. As leader of a group of people who opposed the party's central committee, Dhani holds a bargaining position and remains a force to be reckoned with in challenging the SNAP.

As a matter of fact, before he was expelled, Dhani had already devised a countermeasure by setting up a "Mediation and Consultation Committee," of which he is self-appointed chairman, and which comprises 10 SNAP members in the state assembly and 2 independent members of parliament. On 8 June these people jointly submitted SNAP Chairman Wee Kim Beng a memorandum, explaining that this committee was set up to aid SNAP in facing the coming state elections. The memo proposed that former SNAP members who either withdrew or were expelled from membership be allowed to rejoin the party; it also recommended certain candidates for cabinet ministerial posts and put forth other proposals.

Datuk Wee Kim Beng was livid with rage over Dhani's establishment of the "Mediation and Consultation Committee" and his public criticism of SNAP's policies in the newspapers. In a press conference held on 13 June, Datuk Wee bitterly denounced Dhani Dachan. He said: "There is only one Sarawak National Party with only one set of statutes. I want any member who violates the party's orders to resign voluntarily and any member who publicly expresses damaging, irresponsible opinions to be subject to expulsion by the party's central executive committee." He pointed out that the so-called "Mediation and Consultation Committee" by no means got the party central committee's approval and is, therefore, an "illegal organization" which runs counter to the party constitution.

During the press conference Datuk Wee Kim Beng stressed that the SNAP is a multiracial political party. Its members and supporters are made up of various multiracial mass organizations, and its actions should be geared toward getting benefits for its multiracial membership.

He said that although the SNAP is a multiracial party, most of its representatives in the state assembly belong to the Dayak tribe. As party chairman and a member of Chinese descent, he is delighted to see Dayak leaders sitting in state and federal government bodies, and as long as they abide by the party discipline and constitution, they become our sources of pride and honor.

However, Dhani Dachan's clique apparently disagrees to the views of Datuk Wee. Dhani's supporter, a state assemblyman named Joseph Samuel, commented on Dhani's expulsion to the press: "Although the SNAP is expressly a multiracial political party, its membership should be composed mainly of the Dayak tribe, just as the Sarawak United People's Party [SUPP], which also claims to be a multiracial party, is composed mainly of Chinese members after all."

Datuk Wee and Datuk Ningkan, founder member of the party, insisted that the SNAP must maintain its multiracial characteristics. The views of Dhani Dachan and Datuk Leo Moggie purporting that the SNAP should become a Dayak-dominated political party has become one of the reasons for the party's internal dissension.

Datuk Wee revealed that his party will shortly submit a report addressed to Sarawak Chief Minister Datuk Taib, Malaysia's Prime Minister Datuk Seri Mahathir Mohamad and National Front Secretary General Kawa Baba, explaining the reasons for Dhani's expulsion. Moreover, the report recommends some candidates to fill the post of Sarawak Deputy Chief Minister. It is generally expected SNAP's acting chairman, Edward Charlie, has the best chance of being accepted to fill the slot.

However, will the SNAP's recommendation for the ouster of Dhani Dachan as Sarawak Deputy Chief Minister and for his replacement by a SNAP representative be acceptable to the chief minister? This is a moot point watched with great interest by political circles. As Dhani enjoys the backing of 10 SNAP members in the state assembly who might stage a showdown with the party's central

committee and a mass resignation from party membership, this would mean the loss of 10 seats in the state legislature at the expense of the National Front, which in turn would affect the composition of seats of National Front member parties in the state cabinet. Perhaps the post of Sarawak deputy chief minister may be left vacant temporarily, but this would mean a great loss to the Sarawak National Party.

Supposing the internal dissension within the SNAP does not simmer down in the wake of Dhani's ouster, it is most likely that feelings of sulky dissatisfaction will flare up, and such a contingency may shake Datuk Wee Kim Beng's position as the Chinese-ancestry chairman of the party.

As a matter of fact, Datuk Wee once expressed openly that the reason he was willing to succeed Datuk Endawi (a Dayak tribesman) as SNAP's chairman was to prove that the Sarawak National Party is indeed a multiracial political organization. It would not be surprising that after meeting with repeated difficulties and taking the situation as a whole into consideration, Datuk Wee Kim Beng might step down as party chairman.

If and when Datuk Wee resigns, it is most likely that SNAP's founder and first chairman, Datuk Ningkan, would stage a comeback to lead the party. At present he is member of the central committee and during this internal struggle, he has supported Datuk Wee all along.

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CSO: 4205/10

MINISTER STRESSES NEED FOR GOVERNMENT HAND IN CHINESE SCHOOLS

Selangor SIN CHEW JIT POH MALAYSIA in Chinese 27 Jun 83 p 10B

[Text] Deputy Education Minister Dr Tan Tiong Hong hoped the Chinese community could continue to support and develop Chinese primary schools.

For this reason, he said, the government had set up a board of trustees in Chinese primary schools.

He stressed that it was not by virtue of the mere effort of one or two persons to safeguard the position of the Chinese, but through the solidarity of the Chinese community.

These remarks were made by the deputy minister last night at a banquet commemorating Teacher's Day and the 33rd anniversary of Bandamaran A School, honoring Gan Cheng Hean, adviser to the school's Building Construction Committee who was awarded a "Justice of the Peace" medal by the Sultan of Selangor, and Gan Yuk Ying, a retiring teacher.

Dr Tan said 90 percent of Chinese parents in Malaysia send their children to Chinese schools to learn things in their mother tongue.

He hoped these youngsters would not fall behind the times or become problem people as they grow up.

On behalf of the government, he thanked the Chinese community for their contributions toward Chinese primary schools.

With regard to the A School's erstwhile application to the authorities for financial subsidies to build buildings, Dr Tan hoped that the school's Board of Trustees would launch the construction now.

He hoped the school would not wait for the economy to turn for the better to expect to get the subsidy, for it would be too late.

Dr Tan urged the Chinese community in Pasing to make joint efforts concerning this matter.

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CS0: 4205/10

MCA LEADER ON CHINESE CULTURE, RELIGIOUS FREEDOM

Selangor SIN CHEW JIT POH MALAYSIA in Chinese 28 Jun 83 p 3

[Text] Datuk Dr Neo Yee Pan, deputy president of MCA [Malaysian Chinese Association], said as the Chinese is one of the three great nationalities, Chinese culture should be brought into our national culture.

He said the smooth and punctual parade of lion and dragon dances reflected the solidarity among the Chinese people. If the Chinese were as concerned about politics as they are about lion and dragon dance parade, their political strength would be limitless.

Datuk Neo made these remarks while attending a public ceremony marking the opening of a lion and dragon dance contest and the birthday of Madame Fan goddess held at a Buddhist temple here last night.

He said that since our independence, Islam has been the official religion of Malaysia according to the constitution, but our people enjoy freedom of worship. We do not permit the existence of any religious fanaticism, because a religion is fundamentally tolerant and broadminded. On the other hand, religious fanaticism leans heavily toward extremist thought and behavior. Such religious extremism is most dangerous for our multiracial society. To safeguard our achievements since our national construction and guarantee the peace and order enjoyed by our peacefully coexisting nationalities all these years, our people must develop a religious spirit which is imbued with moral concepts and correct tenets, including the tolerant spirit of Buddhism. This is most important.

He held that belief in religion was for the human spirit to have sustenance. In the hurly-burly of social life, everybody needs a religious belief to find spiritual solace. Strengthened with such a belief, our lives will not fall into empty bottomless pits. In the process of national development, the people must pay attention to spiritual values and a balance between material and spiritual needs, otherwise life would be meaningless.

Dr Neo, who is minister for housing and local government, said that all religions encourage people to do good and be good. Buddhism is no exception. What is most evident is that Buddhism stresses good moral behavior and teaches people moral breeding. Furthermore, it praises thriftiness and discourages

extravagance. At a time when the world is hit by a recession, our friends who believe in Buddhism should all the more promote the spirit of thrift, and join hands with the entire people and government in promoting a thrift movement. We should all aid the government in stabilizing our national economy, so the people can continue to enjoy the fruits of peaceful living.

Datuk Dr Neo said: "There is no doubt that all the people in our country are already cultivating a good spirit of religious tolerance. Not only Buddhist believers but also other nationalities today enthusiastically took part in the celebration of the birthday of Madame Fan goddess at the Buddhist Temple. This amply shows that the people in our country mutually respect religious beliefs, which forms part of our lifestyle. We must feel proud of this tolerant and friendly way of life."

He stressed that Buddhism occupies an important position in the Malaysian Chinese community. There it will play an even more important role in the future. He hoped that henceforth all Buddhist organizations could help promote greater solidarity among the Chinese and, through it, achieve unity among the entire Malaysian people.

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CSO: 4205/10

WATER POLLUTION IN MALAYSIA BECOMING MORE SERIOUS

Selangor SIN CHEW JIT POH MALAYSIA in Chinese 26 Jun 83 p 3

[Text] The problem of water pollution in several regions of our country has reached a disturbing situation.

At present, water pollution is attributable to development of Malaysia's soil and other recycled or nonrecycled resources, as well as waste matter emitted during agricultural and chemical industrial processes in urban areas.

Today the worst polluted waterways included the Pasing River Basin, Churug River Basin (Perak), Kuinta River Basin (Johore) and Malacca River Basin.

It is learned that last October the Environment Division of the Ministry of Science, Technology and Environment completed its report on "The Quality of Environment (1979)."

The report said that a preliminary assessment of the water mass of Malaysian waterways in 1976 revealed that 42 waterways were seriously contaminated, 16 others medium-level contaminated, and 9 others had a latent problem of contamination.

It added that the following resources development activities were the main causes of water pollution: mining, new agricultural colonies, replanting activities in existing agricultural land, logging, housing construction, town building and general basic planning development.

All these undertakings affect water in one way or another, for instance, through land erosion, river clogging and changes in the stable water drainage system.

One aftermath of these problems can be seen from the ill effect of a flood disaster where, apart from the losses and heavy recovery costs directly caused by the flood, we have to suffer indirect losses due to the destruction of economic activities and the rerouting of manpower and resources for rescue work.

One of the major causes of water pollution is clogging caused by the flow of industrial liquids into the water mass. This is evident, because industries

have become the most developed sector in Malaysia's national economy in the past few years.

Urban wastes include matters originating from homes, commercial companies, restaurants, markets and factories. Shortage of a waste-disposal system in most regions of our country is the principal reason for pollution caused by these waste matters. Only 12 percent of urban dwellers use a flush toilet connected to a community waste-disposal system, 44.3 percent use a flush toilet appliance which drains into a septic tank, another 34.7 percent use bucket-type nightstools, while the remaining 9 percent have no bathroom facilities at all. In the rural areas, only 58.2 percent of the inhabitants use hygienic lavatories (manure pits/septic tanks).

Sea pollution, apart from natural factors, is mostly attributable to large-scale human endeavors. Such pollution is not restricted to Malaysian territory, as some pollutants seep into our waters through air and water currents. The main activities which lead to contamination are logging of trees and leveling of soil, including agricultural exploitation, excavation of land and dredging of seabed, drainage of river water, agricultural and public health pest control, waste matters from ships, industrial pollutants, mineral fuels and nuclear waste matters.

The Strait of Malacca is a dangerous waterway. In certain sections, it is so shallow and narrow that an accident may befall a ship passing by. According to statistics, an average of 150 ships pass through this strait in a month, of which 25 percent are huge oil tankers.

Based on the degree of pollution at the source and its effect on the environment concerned, water pollution may be divided into three categories, namely, waste materials from palm oil factories, waste materials from natural rubber processing and waste materials from other industrial residues and liquids. Some 60 percent of the industrial pollution are caused by palm oil and rubber processing.

Classified by type of industry, palm oil causes 34.2 percent of the pollution, rubber 25.1 percent, other industries 14.9 percent and sewage 25.8 percent. From these data, it may be seen that the volume of filthy water and chemicals caused by industries is three times that caused by household waste water. Thus, industrial waste water may be said to be the culprit that affects water sources throughout the nation.

According to statistics, 97 percent of contaminated water is caused by waste matter discharged by the foodstuff-processing industry (40.4 percent), chemical industry (35.2 percent) and textile industry (21.5 percent).

According to a survey on the Pasing River taken by a consultancy company in 1973, poisonous heavy metals dumped from industrial areas in Kuala Lumpur, Pataling and Shuang Hsi Leng Kan (phonetic) totaled about 3,600 kgs per day.

In 1975 a report prepared by local authorities revealed that 3.5 million tons of sewage were dumped into the Strait of Penang per day.

By comparison, the waters on South China shores and the Strait of Malacca are less contaminated. However, pollution of water at the seashore is likely to increase in the wake of a corresponding increase in offshore oil exploration activities in Malaysian Peninsula and East Malaysia. Some 57 percent of the approachable eastern coastline, stretching from Kota Bharu to Hong Sing Bay in Johore, have been contaminated by tar.

Another major but underrated pollutant is solid waste matter. Whereas plastic bags, wood and other broken pieces are often visible at beaches or floating on the water, the total volume of solid waste matter thrown into the sea is difficult to gauge.

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CS0: 5000/4344

BRIEFS

LANGUAGE TEST FOR LAWYERS--Kuala Lumpur, Fri. -- The Dewan Rakyat today passed the Legal Profession (amendment) Bill after a three-day debate. The Bill, among other things, requires all advocates and solicitors to pass the Bahasa Malaysia qualifying examination from Jan. 1 next year and empowers the Chief Justice to appoint a disciplinary committee to enquire into complaints and information from the Bar Council. Winding up the debate on the Bill, Agriculture Minister Datuk Haji Abdul Manan Othman said that with the provisions it was hoped that the good name of the Legal Profession would be maintained and the interests of the public safeguarded. By giving the power to the Attorney-General to look into the practice and discipline of lawyers, they would not be bounded by only one party, that is, the Bar Council, he said. Datuk Haji Abdul Manan said that the Bar Council was accountable to parliament whose members were elected by the people. He refuted allegations by the Opposition that the government was trying to do away with the basic rights of the Bar Council. Datuk Haji Manan said that the government would seek the advice of the council from time to time when needed and this, he added, was an honour. On the membership of the qualification board to be set up, he said that the number of members would be in line with the functions of the board. --Bernama. [Text] [Kuching SARAWAK TRIBUNE in English 6 Aug 83 p 1]

GOVERNMENT WARNING TO FARMERS--Alor Star, Thurs.--Farmers have been warned to be wary of so-called "ulamaks" who misinterpret the Government's policy of instilling Islamic values in Malaysian life. Agricultural Minister Datuk Manan Osman said today that those responsible for such activities were intellectuals who gave their own interpretations to the policy to further their interests. "Farmers should be on the alert against such elements who want to confuse the people," he said at a thanksgiving ceremony at Kuala Nerang, 35km from here today. He said Islamic values such as hard work, good character and morals and cleanliness were not new to the people and were facets of everyday life. Datuk Manan said these values had been narrowly interpreted to suggest that clothes should be worn to cover the entire body with a greater stress on superficial aspects. He said stressing such small details would lead to unnecessary delay in the assimilation of Islamic values in Malaysian life. "These opportunists are trying to confuse the people on this policy

as they know that religion is so personal that it can lead to divisions among us." Datuk Manan said the nation's enemies were ready to exploit these divisions to their own advantage to oppose the aims of the government. He said they wanted to see this happen as any split between the Muslims would create useful opportunities to carry out their ulterior motives. He urged farmers to stay away from unhealthy elements who were using religion to enhance their position with the farming community. [Text] [Kuala Lumpur NEW STRAITS TIMES in English 5 Aug 83 p 2]

PETROLEUM AGREEMENT WITH THAILAND--Kuala Lumpur, Sat:--Malaysia and Thailand have agreed to set up a joint development authority to exploit petroleum resources in the sea-bed of the joint development area. The agreement was reached at the sixth meeting of the Malaysia-Thailand joint authority which ended at the Wisma Putra here today. The three-day meeting, chaired by the Malaysian co-chairman of the Malaysia-Thailand joint authority; Datuk Harun Ariffin, also adopted reports of the ninth, tenth and eleventh legal committee meetings, the seventh joint technical working group and fifth revenue authorities meetings. A statement from the Prime Minister's Department implementation and coordination unit said the seventh meeting would be held in Thailand in December. The Thai delegation to the meeting here was led by the mineral resources director-general, Industry Ministry, Encik Sivarong Chankasiri, who is also co-chairman of the joint authority.--Bernama. [Text] [Kuching THE BORNEO POST in English 7 Aug 83 p 1]

CHOLERA UNDER CONTROL--Kangar, Sat:--Health Minister Datuk Chin Hon Ngian said that the cholera situation in the country was under control and the public need not worry. However, he said, the people should take precautionary measures and observe personal hygiene. He told reporters after visiting the General Hospital here that his ministry had taken the necessary steps to check the spread of the disease. Since the beginning of the year till last week, about 1,900 cholera cases had been reported with 33 deaths throughout the whole country, he said. Sabah heads the list of cholera cases reported followed by Kelantan and Trengganu. Datuk Chin said the disease was waterborne and also due to unhygienic conditions. He said 70 per cent of cholera cases in Sabah were among illegal immigrants because of their source of water supply and their dirty surroundings. Earlier, he opened the Perlis Buddhist Association building. --Bernama. [Text] [Kuching THE BORNEO POST in English 7 Aug 83 p 3]

ASEAN TO DISCUSS BRUNEI'S MEMBERSHIP--Jakarta, Fri.--Brunei will attend the Asean senior officials meeting here on Aug. 11 and 12 to discuss its application to join the group after the British protectorate attains its independence, sources said here today. The oil-rich State had in the past sent observers to Asean foreign ministers conferences and other meetings of the regional grouping. The sources said the meeting would also discuss developments in the region. Meanwhile, the director-general of the Asean National Secretariat of Indonesia, Adiwoso Abu Bakar, said no date had been fixed for the meeting between ASEAN foreign ministers and President Ronald Reagan. He said that Indonesia Foreign Minister Prof. Mochtar Kusumaatmadja, as chairman of the Asean standing committee, would consult his counterparts on matters to be discussed with the US president. He also said that Asean would never become a military pact as some Western political analysts believed. --Bernama. [Text] [Kuala Lumpur NEW STRAITS TIMES in English 6 Aug 83 p 13]

SABAH-BRUNEI-SARAWAK HIGHWAY--Kuala Lumpur, Mon: --Malaysia is cooperating with Brunei to implement a highway project linking Sabah with Brunei and Sarawak, the Dewan Rakyat was told today. Works Minister Datuk S. Samy Vellu said in a written reply to Encik Fung Ket Wing (DAP-Sandakan) that the project would link Miri in Sarawak and Sindumin in Sabah with Brunei. He said Sabah was now linked with Sarawak by the Lawas-Merapok/Sindumin Road which was opened to traffic in November 1981. Datuk Samy Vellu said \$480.3 million had been allocated to Sabah and \$315.8 million to Sarawak for the period 1981-84 for the purpose of upgrading roads. A total of \$33.8 million had also been allocated for the purchase of equipment in Sabah and \$38 million in Sarawak. --Bernama. [Text] [Kuching THE BORNEO POST in English 2 Aug 83 p 1]

TERENGGANU CO-ED SCHOOLS TO BE ABOLISHED--Dungun, Wed. -- The State Education Department is in the process of turning six co-educational secondary schools in Terengganu into single-sex schools beginning next year. Its director Encik Annuar Ayeob said this was in line with Government efforts to instill Islamic values in schools. He said two of the schools involved were in Besut and the others in Kuala Terengganu. He, however, did not identify the schools. Encik Annuar was speaking at the opening of the second annual gathering of the Puteri Islam movement by the Tengku Ampuan Besar Terengganu at the ITM branch campus here yesterday. He also announced that the Sri Budiman secondary school in Kuala Terengganu will be turned into a religious school and its curriculum changed. [Text] [Kuala Lumpur NEW STRAITS TIMES in English 4 Aug 83 p 5]

9201

CSO: 4200/849

RTN CHIEF COMMENTS ON CHINESE WEAPONS

Kuala Lumpur ASIAN DEFENCE JOURNAL in English Aug 83 p 6

[Text]

On his return from an official visit to the People's Republic of China, Royal Thai Navy (RTN) Commander-in-Chief, Admiral Somboon Chuapibul, suggested that the Thai armed forces buy individual Chinese firearms. He said the Chinese weapons are modern and their quality is on par with those in Europe. An important factor is that prices are reasonable.

Adm Somboon told reporters that he led the Thai delegation to inspect several Chinese arms factories. According to him the Chinese pistols and submachine guns are particularly interesting because they are "no less modern than those produced in the West."

He said, he had asked Thailand's Army Attache in Peking to request Chinese authorities to provide the Thai Armed Forces with more information about Chinese arms.

He believes that Thailand will stand to gain a lot by buying arms from China. "Most of the arms used by Communist insurgents here are from China. If we (Thai Armed Forces) use Chinese weapons in the armed forces, we would be able to make use of all the arms seized from the guerrillas."

Thailand has officially never purchased arms from China which used to be the main supplier of weapons to the Communist Party of Thailand.

As guest of the Chinese Navy Commander-in-Chief the Thai navy chief had a chance to see several of the Chinese-made weapons as well as Chinese military bases, missiles, SAM 7 rockets, submarine dockyard, and some Chinese naval bases.

GENERAL COMMENTS ON HELICOPTER PURCHASE

Kuala Lumpur ASIAN DEFENCE JOURNAL in English Aug 83 p 6

[Text]

The US government plans to sell Thailand four UH-60 troop-carrying helicopters for US\$38 million. The Pentagon recently announced that the justification for this sale was that Thailand's current fleet of helicopters is aging and acquisition of the UH-60 would enable Thailand to modernize its fighting capability. A Bangkok report said the announcement also noted that "recent events have underscored the need for the Thai armed forces to maintain well-equipped military units to deter hostile forces operating from neighbouring countries" — referring to recent incursions by Vietnamese troops into Thai territory from Kampuchea.

In addition to the helicopters, the deal includes spare engines, parts, tools, ground support equipment, technical help and training.

In Bangkok, Assistant Army Commander-in-Chief Gen Pathom Sermain told reporters that the UH-60 helicopters to be purchased will replace the old existing Bell helicopters which are normally used to fly VIPs. Gen Pathom also said the US had sent a team of officials to Thailand to train Thai personnel on the use of the UH-60 helicopters. He also said the Bell helicopters have a carrying capacity of only eight persons while the UH-60 can carry up to 60 passengers. Two of the UH-60 helicopters are expected to be delivered to the Royal Thai Army within ten months. This deal, said Gen Pathom, has been undertaken under the US Foreign Military Sales (FMS) programme.

RESULTS OF MILITARY DELEGATION'S TRIP TO LIBYA REPORTED

Kuala Lumpur ASIAN DEFENCE JOURNAL in English Aug 83 p 4

[Text]

A Thai military delegation visited Libya recently for unofficial talks with authorities on the question of Muslim separatists in Southern Thailand.

According to sources the Thai delegation was led by Lt Gen Thanom Waithanomsat, deputy chief-of-staff of the National Security Command Headquarters of the Supreme Command. The delegation, had originally sought to have a meeting with Libyan leader, Col Muammar Kadhafi but ended up meeting with the Libyan foreign minister, the director-general of the Religious Department, and some military officers.

The source said that the most important topic discussed with the Libyan authorities was the problem of Muslim separatists operating in Southern Thai provinces with financial support from countries in the Middle East. And Libya is believed to be one of these countries. The Thai delegation, is believed to have explained to Libyan authorities the current situation in South Thailand, as well as Thai government policy toward Muslim people living in the area in order to dispel any possible misunderstanding.

The military delegation included some civilians who are well informed and highly experienced in dealing with problems of Muslims in the Southern provinces. The visit was approved by Thai Supreme Commander, Gen Saiyud Kerdphol. It was also designed to improve relations between Thailand and Libya, the source said.

Members of the delegation expressed satisfaction with the results of the discussion, when they returned to Thailand.

According to the source, "Both sides now have a better understanding." As Libya has been providing Thailand with large sums of development funds through private Muslim organizations the Thai delegation reportedly told the Libyan government that it would be better to channel the funds through Thai government agencies so that their distribution could be properly controlled.

According to the source, "Libyan authorities appeared receptive to the delegation's request." Regarding Muslim separatists, the Libyan authorities told the Thai delegation that it must be regarded as an internal affair of Thailand.

As a result of this trip, a plan has been worked out to set up the "Muslim Foundation of Thailand." Thai Supreme Commander, Gen Saiyud Kerdphol revealed that the foundation would receive financial and political support mainly from Libya. Gen Saiyud reportedly said that the implementation of the plan would help reduce the influence of Muslim separatist movements in the South. The foundation will serve as a centre in channelling foreign funds to finance development projects for the Muslim community throughout the country.

The committee of the foundation, which comprises government officials and respected Muslim leaders, will meet during early July to work out details of its activities before formally applying for registration. Some members, of the committee will visit other Muslim countries apart from Libya to seek financial support for the activities of the foundation.

THAILAND

BRIEFS

TRANSPORT AIRCRAFT DELIVERED--The new advanced model C-130H-30 -- the military version "Super Hercules" transport was delivered recently by Lockheed-Georgia Company to the Royal Thai Air Force. Thailand became the fifth operator to put into service the new stretched military "Super Hercules" C-130 version. Other countries operating the longer fuselage C-130H-30 are Algeria, Cameroon, Indonesia and Dubai. England's Royal Air Force also flies a stretched C-130 version designated the C-Mark 3. Featuring a fuselage and cargo compartment 15 feet longer than the standard length Hercules, the "H Dash 30" provides a near 40 per cent increase in cargo and personnel capacity. For Thailand, the delivery represented the second buy of the Hercules aircraft. Lockheed builds the C-130/L-100 aircraft at its plant in Marietta, Ga., at the rate of three per month. Delivery of the 1700th aircraft in the series will occur later in 1983. [Text] [Kuala Lumpur ASIAN DEFENCE JOURNAL in English Aug 83 p 6]

9201

CSO: 4200/845

MILITARY AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC SECURITY

TRAFFIC CONTROL UNIT APPREHENDS TWO ROBBERS

Hanoi NHAN DAN in Vietnamese 14 Jul 83 p 4

[Article by Tu Huong: "Resourcefulness Displayed in Capture of Two Robbers"]

[Text] On 12 July, a bus, with license plate number 29B 42-64, was travelling from Yen Vien to Gia Lam City-Hanoi. When it arrived at the Chui Bridge traffic control station, it stopped to comply with inspection procedures. A young passenger informed the station's personnel that there were robbers on board. Third Lieutenant Nguyen Song That and Senior Sergeant Lai Thi Tao (shown in picture) quickly told the passengers to disembark; at the time, a car was nearing the completion of its inspection and its driver was preparing to start the engine and depart in the direction of Haiphong. Realizing that they had been exposed, the two robbers quickly jumped from the bus--the one wearing an army uniform and impersonating a soldier ran toward the car and jumped onto the back of it, intending to make an escape. Nguyen Song That, although armed, decided not to fire and planned, instead, to capture the robber alive. He ran after the car, blowing his whistle, signalling for it to stop. As soon as the car came to a stop and before the robber could offer any resistance, That jumped onto the car and subdued and handcuffed him; when he was searched, the robber was found to be carrying a loaded K59 pistol with one round already in the chamber. Seeing that his accomplice had been captured, the second robber looked for another way to escape. But Lai Thi Tao promptly grabbed him. All the passengers on the bus were very excited and praised the two public security soldiers for their resourcefulness in apprehending the two robbers and insuring the safety of the passengers. At the Gia Lam public security post, the thief who was armed with the pistol identified himself as Tran Thanh Tam, who earned his living through illegal trade and had spent 4 years in prison for the crime of stealing the property of citizens and 18 months in prison for the crime of stealing cement from the state. His accomplice, Tran Dinh Quang, was a boxer who had learned from him how to be a robber.

Nguyen Song That and Lai Thi Tao have performed their traffic inspection and safety task well while participating many times in the capture of smugglers operating along Route 1A and Route 5.

From the days that he worked inspecting bridge traffic within the Long Bien Bridge traffic control unit and then in traffic control at the head of the Gia

Iam Bridge to today, in his job in the Chui Bridge traffic control public security unit. Nguyen Song That has always set a good example in his daily life and never been afraid of difficult work. In the performance of their traffic control work, Nguyen Song That and Lai Thi Tao have constantly displayed high vigilance, kept close watch on persons who earn their livings illegally and made arrests in many cases involving illegal trade by profiteers, smugglers and manufacturers of fake goods. These persons have frequently tried to use bribes to evade the law but Nguyen Song That and his colleague have always maintained the pure qualities of a people's public security soldier. Nguyen Song That has refused to accept bribes four times. He is a model party member who is admired by the cadres and soldiers of the station. Outstanding Youth Union member Lai Thi Tao, although still young, has displayed bravery and daring. Not only has she fulfilled the task assigned to her, she has also eagerly participated in the arrests of hoodlums who earn their livings illegally.

7809

CSO: 4209/498

MILITARY AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC SECURITY

ACHIEVEMENTS SCORED BY PEOPLE'S POLICE IN MAINTAINING ORDER, SECURITY

Hanoi NHAN DAN in Vietnamese 20 Jul 83 pp 1,4

[Text] To celebrate their 21st Traditional Festival (20 July 1962-20 July 1983), the people's police forces have carried out the movement "to study deeply and implement strictly venerated and beloved Uncle Ho's six advices to the people's security forces" by continuously raising their sense of responsibility in executing tasks and in fighting to maintain public order and security.

The People's Police General Department and the people's police forces in many localities such as Hanoi, Phu Khanh, Nghe Tinh, Bac Thai and so forth have launched a political activity drive to "study deeply and implement strictly six advices by venerated and beloved Uncle Ho." People's police cadres and combatants in the above-mentioned localities have participated in the political activity drive and studied the directives of the Ministry of Interior, the explanations on Uncle Ho's six advices and the statement by the minister of interior.

Cadres and combatants in many departments subordinate to the People's Police General Department have carried out criticism and self-criticism in a serious manner according to Uncle Ho's six advices regarding standpoint, execution of the party and state policies, organizational and disciplinary concepts and the qualifications and virtues of revolutionary public security agents; they have worked out a specific program of action for both individuals and units with a view to continuously displaying a high sense of responsibility in carrying out tasks and combat activities and to fulfilling with high effectiveness their mission of maintaining public order and security in the last 6 months of 1983.

The police forces in the border provinces of Ha Tuyen, Cao Bang, Lai Chau, Quang Ninh and Hoang Lien son...have eagerly helped party committees at various echelons and the local administration to motivate tribesmen to struggle to eliminate borderline markets and to expose the Chinese reactionaries' deceitful plot to take advantage of these markets to conduct manifold sabotage activities against our country. In conjunction with army men and with the cadres of various sectors, members of the economic, traffic and security guard police forces have intensified their patrol and control activities, maintained security in key areas and effectively struggled against illegal traders and enemy clandestine activities.

The economic police forces of the public security services in Haiphong, Quang Nam-Da Nang and Binh Tri Thien have struggled tenaciously against embezzlers, thieves and persons making a living by illegal means, safeguarded the socialist property and retrieved for the state benefit thousands of liters of gasoline and oil, dozens of bags of chemicals and many tons of coal, monosodium glutamate and other commodities.

Relying on the people's assistance, the economic police forces in Thuan Hai have uncovered and struggled highly effectively against illegal traders taking advantage of commercial activities to smuggle gold, silver, gems, medicines, etc.

In close coordination with military control units and railroad security guards working aboard trains, the railroad security guard police forces have constantly carried out patrol and control to ensure the train passengers' safety. Displaying a high sense of responsibility in serving and protecting the people, many cadres and combatants in these forces have scored brilliant achievements.

9332

CSO: 4209/5-2

MILITARY AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC SECURITY

PUBLIC ORDER, SECURITY IMPROVED BY JOINT ACTION OF YOUTHS, MILITARY

Hanoi NHAN DAN in Vietnamese 20 Jul 83 p 3

[Article by Do Quang: "Youth Forces Maintain Social Security, Order and Safety"]

[Text] For many months, the four colors of the clothes worn by four forces constituted by public security agents, armymen, members of the Ho Chi Minh Communist Youth Union and workers has become a familiar sight to broad sections of people living in Ba Dinh Precinct, Hanoi. The people have supported them and created all conditions for them to firmly maintain political security and social order and safety. Owing to their enthusiastic and effective activities, the bad practice of dealing in bus tickets at the Long Bien and Kim Ma bus stations has been set back gradually. Cases of theft have diminished in number and public order and sanitation have improved. On roads crowded with pedestrians and a heavy traffic of vehicles and streetcars, there have been obvious changes in the respect of traffic law and in the observance of regulations on decorum at public places. Traffic accidents have been reduced by 26 percent in comparison with the same period last year. Hundreds of shacks and booths encroaching on roads and sidewalks or built illegally have been completely removed. Order has been reestablished at the Buoi, Ngoc Ha and Chau Long markets and in front of grain, food and fuel shops and department stores where illegal traders formerly used to create disturbances and competed in buying and selling goods, causing price fluctuations and disrupting the market. Noteworthy is a 53 percent reduction in the number of violations of the socialist property together with a reduction of nearly 40 percent in the number of criminal lawbreakings throughout the district area. Many cases of speculation, smuggling and illegal business have been uncovered promptly, leading to the retrieval on the state's behalf of hundreds of thousands of meters of fabric, dozens of thousands of pairs of flashlight batteries together with gold, money and many million dong's worth of other valuable and rare merchandise. Over the past 9 months, no case of theft and loss of property has happened to many factories, enterprises, organs and production installations. What has Ba Dinh Precinct done to bring into play the combat power of four coordinated youth forces?

In answer to this question, Nguyen Dinh Thanh, head of the Ba Dinh Precinct Public Security Station and vice chairman of the guidance committee for the joint action of the four forces in the precinct, said that the primary reason

for this success is the fact that party committee echelons and the administration from the precinct to the ward level including army units, organs, enterprises and factories located in the ward areas have really paid attention to providing a constant guidance for the movement and have tried to arouse the youths' sense of ownership and enthusiasm so as to induce them participate in these forces. Really, it is no longer appropriate to apply the [old] working method characterized by commandism, clamorous formalism and perfunctory response to any newly launched movement. Here in each ward, unit, organ and factory where these forces participate in the movement, the Youth Union and the movement leaders have watched the realities of life constantly and closely in order to quickly formulate appropriate programs of action and have wisely linked and directed the activities of the youth in each force to each specific work at specific times with the aim of best promoting the central tasks of both the locality and city. This in-depth, realistic working method has aroused the enthusiasm and interest of youths in various forces and has induced them to eagerly coordinate activities to carry out the mission of maintaining public order, reestablishing traffic order and controlling the implementation of regulations on the management, distribution and use of electricity as well as the observance of published selling prices or to do anything that is beneficial to the people and society.

These coordinated activities have had the great effect of inspiring wholesome and noble sentiments. Many youths have become increasingly aware of their responsibility for common tasks and benefits. In the past, many of them stood aloof and ignored negative manifestations occurring right where they were living and working. In conjunction with public security agents, youths in the workers' control forces caught some bad employees of the Ngoc Ha grocery and the Quan Thanh department store in the act of funneling cigarettes, meat and soya cakes out to traders. Youth Union members and workers at the Kim Ma bus station quickly discovered two cases of sale of phony bus tickets by "mobsters." With a high sense of responsibility, workers and the security guard forces in Construction Corporation No 3 (of the Hanoi General Construction Corporation) caught a bad security guard red-handed stealing more than 2 quintals of cement and electric cables belonging to this unit. Inspired by a real sense of ownership, members of the Youth Union, self-defense combatants, security guards and workers in many factories, enterprises and production installations in the precinct have taken the initiative to formulate measures and contracts aimed at safeguarding the socialist property, enforcing labor discipline and forming a lifestyle suitable for the workers' ethics. Contrary to the past when they could hardly perform a model labor day, many production installations, shops and organs have now been able to perform several model labor days a week. Some units have even increased the number of model labor weeks and are trying to perform model labor months. On these labor days full of enthusiasm, everyone has worked with a sense of responsibility and a [high] productivity and quality for a full 8 hours without allowing the occurrence of theft and negative practices while behaving according to a wholesome cultural pattern. In certain areas, Youth Union members have joined public security combatants on mission in streets in assuming the building of safe collective housing areas for their own factories, organs or units, in preventing theft and fires, in creating an orderly, clean and hygienic way of life and in displaying solidarity and mutual love and

responsibility by helping and educating backward youths and directing them toward useful activities appropriate to their young age. They have also organized joyful entertainments for school children during their summer vacation... and have taught them and acquainted them with a lifestyle involving implementation of and respect for laws, regulations and social etiquette at public places and in streets. The collective residential areas at the tiles and cement enterprise, in Cong Vi and in Dien Bien Phu Street have seen changes worth rejoicing which have brought real joy to many families.

As confirmed by the comrade commanding the public security forces and army unit in Ba Dinh Precinct, ever since their activities were coordinated with those of the Youth Union members and workers to carry out their mission, many combatants have matured and made progress in their behavior and manners, in motivating the masses and in their concept of joint combat performed with their comrades in arms. Over the past 9 months since the city launched the movement to coordinate four forces, roads paved with red bricks have appeared in wards situated at the outer perimeter of the city where army units are stationed. With their own hands, arymen have molded and baked these bricks and have used them to build these roads to spare the people the trouble of walking on a muddy soil during the rainy season. The four colors of the clothes worn by the four forces--public security, army, youths and workers--have also been seen on the stage during festival soirees featuring lively songs which bring more joy to life.

9332

CSO: 4209/502

PARTY ACTIVITIES AND GOVERNMENT

NEW LAW ON PEOPLE'S COUNCILS EXPLAINED

Hanoi NHAN DAN in Vietnamese 14 Jul 83 pp 3, 4

[Article by Nguyen Dinh Loc: "Increasing the Power of the State on the Local level and Upholding the Right of Collective Ownership of the People"]

[Text] In the process of building and strengthening the state government on the local level, our state has adopted many important laws. These laws have resolved many pressing problems in everyday life and contributed to the effort to research and develop ways to increase the effectiveness of the elected agencies and eliminate the nature of the people's council as an agency of form but not substance in order to truly make it the agency of state power on the local level.

The 1946 Constitution and Decree 63 dated 22 November 1945 were the first legal foundations upon which state government on the local level was organized. On the basis of these documents, people's councils and administrative committees were established and strengthened over a long period of time, a period marked by the major challenges of the 9 year war of resistance against the French colonialists and agrarian reform.

Following the restoration of peace in the North, the Office of the Premier issued Circular Number 289-TTg dated 10 June 1958, which emphasized the need to strengthen local government. The legal documents mentioned above confirmed a matter in the nature of a principle: "The people's council is the agency of state power on the local level, an agency that is elected by and responsible to the people."

The Law on the Organization of the People's Councils and Administrative Committees on the Various Levels that was adopted in 1962 defined the tasks and authority of the various levels of government in a relatively full and more precise manner than the previous documents did.

The period from the 1960's to the 1980's constituted one long stage of development. The activities of state government on the local level faced new requirements; to meet these requirements and help develop the role of the elected agencies in keeping with the spirit of the resolution of the 4th Party Congress, the new Constitution of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam was

ratified. It has ushered in a new stage in the building and strengthening of the agencies of state power on the local level.

The Tasks and Authority of the People's Council

On the basis of the new Constitution and the Law on the Organization of the National Assembly and the Council of State, the new Law on the Organization of the People's Councils and People's Committees defines the principles and forms whereby the people exercise their right of ownership within each locality and at each installation. When we talk about exercising ownership by means of the people's council as the agency of state power within the locality, we are talking about using the people's council, which consists of representatives elected by the local people who are responsible to the local people, to express the will and aspirations of the local people in deciding matters of importance with regard to building the locality. Article 1 of the Law stipulates: "...The people's council represents the will, aspirations and right of collective ownership of the laboring people within the locality and mobilizes and organizes the people in building and strengthening the government and simultaneously carrying out the three revolutions: the production relations revolution, the scientific-technological revolution and the ideological and cultural revolution, the key one being the scientific-technological revolution, thereby helping to successfully build socialism and firmly defend the socialist fatherland." This is a general definition of the nature, functions and tasks of the people's council, through which the people exercise their right of ownership within the locality.

Article 2 of the Law, which further concretizes the general definition mentioned above, clearly states: "On the basis of the laws and policies of the state and the tasks and authority of their level, the people's councils decide and insure the implementation of programs and measures designed to develop the potentials of the locality, build the locality politically, economically, culturally and socially as well as build its security and national defense systems, constantly improve the material and cultural lives of the local people and fulfill the locality's obligations to the state..."

The provisions of Article 1 and Article 2 clearly point out the nature of the people's council as an agency that manifests the power of the people, an agency organized by the people themselves to look after the concerns of the people and look after every aspect of the life of the people, of society. By implementing the provisions of the articles mentioned above, the people's council will truly become an integral part of the life of Vietnamese society, the collective masters of which are the laboring people.

As the agency of state power and the representative agency of the electorate within a territory, the people's councils on each level have the general authority to "decide and take measures designed to build the locality in every respect" (Article 114, the 1980 Constitution). The new Law restates this provision of the Constitution and concretizes it in the form of the tasks and authority of the people's councils on the various levels under Article 13, Chapter II of the Law. This, a large chapter, is one of the main chapters of the Law.

Chapter II can be divided into two parts:

In nine articles, from Article 8 to Article 16, the Law defines the general authority and tasks of the people's councils on all levels, which encompass every aspect of the life of a locality, from economic construction, scientific-technological, cultural and social development and the improvement of the standard of living to the maintenance of security, the national defense system, the nationalities policy, the socialist system of law, organization and cadres. In other words, there is no field in the social life of a locality that does not become an object of the concern and attention of the people's council.

In each field, the various articles of the Law are presented in the form of a numbered list of the tasks and authorities of the people's council. It must be said that this is an improvement compared to the 1962 Law. Of course, the matter is not simply one of legislative technique; however, examined from this perspective, the new Law is clearly an improvement. The enumeration of the tasks and authorities of the people's council, which reflects the recognition and a generalized expression of the fact that objective reality has reached a higher level of development, provides a clear summary of these tasks and authorities. This is not only useful in presenting the law itself, but also directly contributes to the work of propagandizing, disseminating and organizing the implementation of the provisions of the various articles of the law as well as the work of supervising, enforcing and inspecting compliance with the law.

The next portion of Chapter II consists of four articles of the Law, each of which defines the authority and tasks of the people's council on a specific level: Article 17: the tasks and authority of the people's councils of the provinces, the municipalities directly subordinate to the central level and corresponding levels; Article 18: the tasks and authority of the district people's councils; Article 19: the tasks and authority of the people's councils of the municipalities subordinate to the provincial level, the cities and the wards; Article 20: the tasks and authority of the village and subward people's councils.

Each level of the people's councils, as they are defined in these four articles of the Law, must fulfill the general tasks and authorities of the people's councils on all levels, which are stated in Articles 8 through 16, as mentioned above; at the same time, each people's council must fulfill the particular tasks and authorities of its level. In other words, by means of these four articles of the law, the law establishes a division of tasks and authority among the various levels of people's councils.

Establishing a division of management levels, especially a division of economic management levels, is a major policy of the party and state. In this Law, this policy is given concrete form in the provisions concerning the tasks and authorities of the various levels of the people's councils.

Compared to the corresponding articles of the 1962 Law, the provisions of this new Law represent a fundamental improvement in as much as they are neither abridged or general in nature and do define in rather deep detail the tasks

and authorities that are special to each level of the people's councils, especially the district level. Of course, with regard to such an important issue, one that is still quite new to us, continued research, especially the summarizing of the experiences and practices involved in the division of management levels, which is now being urgently carried out, are totally necessary in order to improve upon and further concretize these provisions.

The Effectiveness of People's Council Activities

The effectiveness of people's council activities is being raised as a number one issue of the day. The salient strongpoint of the new Law on the people's councils and people's committees is that it does not avoid this difficult problem, but makes an effort to resolve it in a direct and positive manner.

One of the seven articles in the very first chapter of the Law is devoted to defining the mechanism for insuring the effectiveness of people's council activities. The article is Article 6, which states: "the effectiveness of the activities of the people's council is guaranteed by the effectiveness of the people's council sessions, the effectiveness of the activities of the people's committee and the various committees of the people's council and the effectiveness of the activities of the representatives on the people's council."

This is one of the articles of the new Law that has the value of a major principle. The significance of this provision is concretely expressed in a concise formula that helps to envision the entire mechanism that insures the effectiveness of people's council activities. Within this mechanism, all four factors are essential, are important: the sessions, the people's committee, the various committees and the representatives on the people's council. The people's council must be seen as an organization that conducts regular activities, activities that assume these forms of organization: sessions, the people's committees the various committees and the representatives on the people's council. The Law devotes four chapters, Chapter III, Chapter IV, Chapter V and Chapter VI, to defining in detail and establishing the position, substance and legal nature of each form of organization supporting the activities of the people's council; Chapter III: the sessions of the people's council; Chapter IV: the committees of the people's council; Chapter V: the representatives on the people's council; and Chapter VI: the people's committee.

The sessions of the people's council, which are the primary form of organization of people's council activities, reflect and express the will and aspirations of the electorate, tap the collective experience and intelligence of the representatives and examine, discuss and decide matters of vital importance to the people within a locality.

Due to the important nature of people's council sessions, the Law devotes a full six articles to related legal matters: such as the number of sessions held during the year by the people's councils on each level. The agenda of the first session of each people's council term is also closely regulated (Article 21, Article 23). Deserving of attention is Article 24, which defines "the matters...that absolutely must be debated and resolved during sessions of

the people's council." This is a new provision of the law, one which is designed to guarantee that no one can take the place of the people's council.

Chapter IV consists of five articles on the various committees of the people's council and is one of the chapters in which many new provisions are found.

Whereas under the old law, committees could be established as required by the needs of the work being performed (Article 28), under the new law, the establishment of committees on all levels of the people's council is mandatory (Article 27). The law gives the Council of State the responsibility for guiding the people's councils on the various levels in the establishment of these committees.

In the spirit of the new law, the committees are not organizations of the specialized, professional type, but a form of organization supporting the activities of the people's council as an agency that conducts regular activities.

Whereas under the old law, the committees only had the tasks of "helping the people's council to learn the opinions and aspirations of the people and contributing opinions to the people's council in the formulation and implementation of policies concerning local work" (Article 29), under the new law, the committees have been assigned broad tasks and authority in order to directly contribute to the fulfillment of the tasks and authority of the people's council, such as helping the people's council decide policies and measures regarding work within the locality; coordinating with the people's committee on the same level in preparing for the sessions of the people's council; examining the reports and proposals of the people's council; researching and proposing related matters to the people's council; helping the people's council to supervise the people's committee and the other agencies of the state within the locality; coordinating with the people's committee and the front committee on the same level in mobilizing the people to comply with the law; advising the people's committee, the presiding judge of the people's court, the heads of the specialized agencies subordinate to the people's committee, etc. (Article 29).

Thus, the new law has made fundamental changes in the position and function of the various committees. This is something that can and must be stated; without the committees with their new tasks and authority, it is difficult to talk about the people's council fulfilling its role as the agency of state power within the locality.

The representatives on the people's council occupy a very high position within the new law.

The provisions of the 14 articles of Chapter V of the law, the "chapter on the people's council representatives," were drafted with the purpose of upholding and developing upon the role of the representatives on the people's council as an especially important form of organization insuring the effectiveness of people's council activities.

The scope of activities of the representatives as defined by the law is very

board: they conduct their activities during the sessions of the people's council, within the committees of the people's council and in contacts with the electorate. The law gives people's council representatives the right to advise the people's committee, the presiding judge of the people's court and the heads of the specialized agencies (Article 36), the right to request that state agencies, units of the people's armed forces and social organizations promptly cease actions by these agencies, units, organizations or their personnel that violate the law or policies (Article 37), etc.

The matter of raising the effectiveness of the activities conducted by representatives is of major importance; this is one of the key issues in insuring the effectiveness of people's council activities, in general, because, in the final analysis, the effectiveness of the sessions that are held, the effectiveness of the committees and the effectiveness of the people's committee are, to a considerable degree, related to the activities conducted by the representatives on the people's council. How the representatives fulfill their role is dependent upon the activism of the representatives themselves and also upon objective conditions, such as the necessary means, working conditions and so forth, which demand the concern and support of the various sectors and levels.

The Position of the People's Committee

The people's committee, as the administrative agency of the people's council, functions as the administrative agency of the state within the locality and occupies a significant position within the new law. The law devotes the three items and the 14 articles in Chapter VI to the people's committee.

The provisions of the new law reflect the idea that the people's committee is, at the same time, the standing agency of the people's council. In this spirit, between sessions of the people's council, the people's committee has the authority to examine and resolve matters pertaining to the tasks and authority of the people's council on the same level but must report to the people's council during the next session for approval, except for those special matters that must be debated and resolved during sessions of the people's council, as mentioned above (Article 47 and Article 24).

In keeping with this spirit and on the basis of Article 6 regarding the effectiveness of the activities of the people's council, it must be stated that the people's committee is a form of organization of the people's council. The people's council and the people's committee are not two separate agencies, rather, the people's committee is part of the structure of the people's council, is an organizational form of the existence and the activities of the people's council.

Establishing and strengthening correct, close relations between the people's council and the people's committee are an important requirement of the new law.

In order to strengthen the relationship between the people's committee and the people's council on the same level in accordance with principles, the law sets forth five points:

a) The people's committee must closely coordinate with the committees of the people's council in preparing the agenda of the sessions of the people's council; the reports and proposals presented to the people's council for its examination, decision or adoption must be examined or commented upon by the concerned committees before they are presented at a session of the people's council (Article 29, Clauses 2 and 3).

b) The people's committee must provide a full supply of the necessary data, information and so forth to the committees of the people's council and the representatives on the people's council (Articles 22 and 63).

c) The people's committee absolutely must present to the people's council on the same level for its examination and decision during sessions of the people's councils those matters recorded in Article 24.

d) Between sessions of the people's council, except with regard to those matters recorded in Article 24, the people's committee is authorized to resolve matters that pertain to the tasks and authority of the people's council on the same level but must present any decisions it makes during the next session of the people's council for its approval (Article 47).

e) The people's committee must periodically report on its work during the sessions of the people's council on the same level and, when necessary, the people's council will issue a resolution on the work of the people's committee (Article 24, Clause 5 and Article 52).

To insure that the people's councils operate in an effective manner, the new law clearly defines in Chapter VII, which consists of five articles, the responsibilities of the Council of State, the Council of Ministers, the people's committees on the various levels and the agencies and personnel of the state within the locality with regard to creating favorable conditions for the people's councils to fulfill the functions and tasks of the agencies of state power on the local level.

The committees of the Vietnam Fatherland Front and the mass organizations within the Front have the responsibility of helping the representatives on the people's council on the same level perform their task and creating the conditions for these representatives to meet with the electorate and learn the opinions and aspirations of the people.

Building a strong, solid government system from the central to the local levels is a pressing requirement. When it is officially announced, the Law on the Organization of the People's Council and People's Committee, which is very well suited to the desires of our cadres and people, will satisfy this requirement and will help to strengthen basic level governments, maintain social order and security and uphold the right of collective ownership of the people better with each passing day.

7809

CSO: 4209/498

PARTY ACTIVITIES AND GOVERNMENT

NORTHERN MOUNTAIN PROVINCE CONFERENCE ON PARTY BUILDING HELD

Hanoi NHAN DAN in Vietnamese 14 Jul 83 p 4

[VNA News Release: "Intensifying Party Building in the Northern Border Mountains"]

[Text] Recently, in Hon Gai City, Quang Ninh Province, the Organization Department of the Party Central Committee held a symposium on intensifying party building in the mountain provinces along the northern border. The heads of the organization committees of the provincial party committees, the secretaries and the heads of the organizational committees of the district party committees and the secretaries of the party committees of some key villages within the eight mountainous provinces of the North attended.

Following the victory over the Chinese aggressor army, the party organizations and people of the mountain provinces along the border urgently overcame the aftereffects of the war and have restored and developed production while dealing with the multifaceted war of sabotage being waged by the enemy. The party building of these provinces, especially at places where fighting has routinely occurred, has focused on the strengthening and building of forces. Tens of thousands of cadres and party members have been sent to the border districts and provinces and more than 30,000 new party members who have been forged and challenged have been accepted into the party, thereby increasing the percentage of party members in the strategically important highland villages. The various party organizations have also promptly expelled from the party members whose will to fight and personal qualities have declined or who have lost the respect of the masses. Many district party committees have rapidly overcome their mistakes and difficulties and focused their efforts on strengthening their corps and leading the party organization and people in the new fight. Once passive, the Bat Xat District Party Committee in Hoang Lien Son Province has regained the initiative and continued to firmly maintain production and protect each bit of soil along the border; the district party committees of Binh Lieu and Hai Ninh in Quang Ninh Province, Quang Hoa in Cao Bang Province, Quan Ba in Ha Tuyen Province, Trang Dinh in Lang Son, Phong Tho in Lai Chau Province and others have taught the spirit of vigilance to the party organization and people, determinedly retaliated against the enemy's encroachments upon the border, maintained social order, maintained security and so forth. The party organizations of the rear line districts and

villages, such as those in Ha Tuyen, Quang Ninh, Lai Chau and other provinces, have organized and led the people in effectively supporting the frontlines with manpower and materiel.

The reports by the district and village party organizations confirmed and proved that the line of the party is correct and showed that useful, practical lessons and experienced have been learned and gained.

Party building in the mountain provinces along the northern border faces extremely pressing requirements of strategic, long-range significance. The most important is the need to closely link party building to the building of districts that are strong and solid in every respect so that the district is fully capable of performing the two strategic tasks of building and firmly defending the socialist Vietnamese fatherland. Party members and the people must be continuously educated so that they have a clear understanding of the struggle between ourselves and the enemy, the struggle between the two systems, in order to win victory over the multifaceted war of sabotage being waged by the Chinese reactionaries and regularly strengthen the corps and increase the fighting strength of the party. The strengthening of the party base and the improvement of the quality of party members must be carried out on a regular, timely basis and weak and deficient basic organizations of the party must be improved so that many party organizations are good and strong; importance must be attached to maintaining internal security, thwarting each scheme of sabotage of the enemy, launching a mass movement, purifying the border and the area of operation and so forth. It is necessary to teach patriotism and strengthen the unity among the ethnic minorities, strengthen the unity between the army and the people, uphold revolutionary traditions and defeat each attempt by the enemy to sow divisions.

7809

CSO: 4209/498

ECONOMIC PLANNING, TRADE AND FINANCE

PROFITEERS, SMUGGLERS THREATENED WITH IMPRISONMENT

Hanoi NHAN DAN in Vietnamese 14 Jul 83 p 2

[Article by Dang Minh Phuong: "From a Number of Cases in Quang Nam-Da Nang Province: State Goods Slipping into the Hands of Merchants"]

[Text] One afternoon in early December, 1982, the Quang Nam-Da Nang economic police arrested Nguyen Thi Hue and found within her house on Alley 30, Ong Ich Khiem Street in Da Nang nearly 30,500 220V-150W round lightbulbs.

At a time when there were no lightbulbs on sale at state stores, where did Nguyen Thi Hue, a merchant at an outdoor market, manage to obtain such a large quantity of lightbulbs? In the face of irrefutable evidence, Hue reluctantly made the following statement: "At about 0900 hours on 7 December 1982, Le Duc Dung came to my house and asked if I wanted to buy some 220 volt lightbulbs; having been asked about lightbulbs by customers in Nha Trang and Saigon, I agreed to buy them in order to resell them at a commission. Dung told me to prepare the necessary money in order to take delivery of the products..." And, this was not the first time that this happened. According to Hue's statement, she had frequently purchased from Dung many Rang Dong florescent and incandescent lightbulbs of many types as well as a number of other electrical products, such as switches, fuses, etc.

So, who was this Le Duc Dung? Unable to evade the law, he, too, was forced to admit his crimes. He lives at number 288 Phan Chu Trinh Street in Da Nang and earned his living through smuggling. Through his channels at outdoor markets, Dung made the acquaintance of Nguyen Van Phuc, a professional worker at the Hoa Vang District Commerce Corporation. The dishonest merchant conspired with the degenerate state worker. Phuc sent goods of the state to Dung.

Some time ago, the Hoa Vang District Level III Commerce Corporation established a section to do business in goods outside the plan, a section that purchased and sold products on its own. This section was given the job by the corporation of purchasing goods within the province as well as outside the province and reselling these goods as soon as the corporation approved their prices. Nguyen Van Phuc was the person who was usually given the task of finding sources of goods at enterprises, agencies and so forth and then buying and selling them at negotiated prices. According to Dung's statement, Dung

purchased 1,000 110V-60W Fang Dong lightbulbs the first time, at a price of 16 dong apiece, which amounted to a total on the invoice of 16,000 dong. However, Dung had to give Phuc 1 dong for each lightbulb; then, Phuc told him that the corporation had 2,000 75W and 100W lightbulbs at an average price of 10 dong apiece. And, as before Phuc was given 2,000 dong by Dung. To legitimize his transactions with Dung, Phuc introduced Dung as a worker at a marketing cooperative, sometimes the marketing cooperative of the Phuoc Ninh Subward and sometimes the marketing cooperative of the Binh Thuan Subward. Because Dung was a well known merchant at outdoor markets, he occasionally asked Pham Khac Quang, another merchant, to take the invoice to the warehouse and pick up the merchandise for him. The merchandise sold to Dung was not only merchandise that was in the warehouse of the Hoa Vang Commerce Corporation, it also consisted of goods purchased through Phuc from other warehouses. Between October and December, 1982, that is, in the space of slightly more than 2 months, Le Duc Dung, by conspiring in the manner described above, purchased through Nguyen Van Phuc 8,497 round lightbulbs, 130 florescent lightbulbs, 6,000 dry cell batteries and a number of other electrical products. Dung has admitted earning a profit of 15,960 dong and paying Phuc many times, with the total payment amounting to 7,200 dong. Both have now been caught by the law.

In complete contrast to the home of Nguyen Thi Hue, where public security police discovered the channel by which tens of thousands of lightbulbs and batteries within state warehouses found their way to outdoor markets, the house at number 5 Le Thanh Ton Street in Da Nang gave no indication whatsoever of being the hiding place of a profiteer and smuggler. It is located on a bright, well kept street. Yet, when they stepped inside, public security soldiers found and confiscated nearly 7 tons of face soap and many other industrial products, such as cloth, thermos bottles, Japanese motorbike tires and so forth. The owner of the house, Nguyen Phuoc, is an administrative management cadre of the Da Nang Municipal Industrial Goods Retail Corporation.

According to the contract that had been signed, Chemicals Corporation Number 2 (Da Nang) sold to the Da Nang Municipal Industrial Goods Retail Corporation 30 tons of face soap "to serve the cadres, manual workers and civil servants of the state within the municipality." The Industrial Goods Retail Corporation assigned to Nguyen Phuoc a task that had nothing whatsoever to do with his profession, namely, to take delivery of soap supposedly being sold to a customer in Hanoi, for whom he was serving as agent, purchasing the soap at 17.5 dong per kilogram right at the warehouse of Chemicals Corporation Number 2, which then transferred the cash to Retail Sales Store Number 3 in Da Nang for conversion into checks in order to comply with procedures and conceal their intentional violation of principles and failure to comply with the clauses and contents of the contract. Nguyen Phuoc went to Chemicals Corporation Number 2 to pick up four copies of the contract, three of which he delivered to the administrative office of the Industrial Goods Retail Sales Corporation. Keeping one copy for himself, Phuoc went to Chemicals Corporation Number 2 many times to pick up a total of 30 tons of Hai Van face soap, which he took back to his house and sold to merchants at the Con Market and a number of other places at a price of 18.5 to 19 dong per kilogram. Phuoc sold more than 22 tons and earned nearly 19,000 dong, after deducting transportation expenses.

The route taken by the 30 tons of face soap from the state warehouse on the pretext of "serving the "cadre" workers and civil servants within the city"(in accordance with the trade contract between two corporations of the state) to the "customer in Hanoi" and then finally to the hands of merchants at the Con Market in Da Nang was a very short route and Nguyen Phuoc worked this route quite well until he was stopped by the law.

And, what follows is the route taken by hundreds of tons of large, heavy building materials, such as pieces of iron and steel, from a state warehouse to the profit of persons engaging in collusion and profiteering.

On 30 September 1980, To Dung, the acting director of the Region 5 Supply Federation, signed a decision to establish a production plant subordinate to the Region 5 Supply Federation, a plant tasks with "organizing the procurement and processing of discarded materials and technical supplies, such as bags and other discarded materials, into products serving the needs of the production, construction and daily lives of the people...in order to increase the federation's profits. However, as soon as it was established, the subsidiary production plant began to specialize in the procurement and sale of discarded materials and supplies of the state to dishonest merchants.

Some time ago, with the agreement of the Ministry of Supply and the allocation of capital to the Da Nang Discarded Metals Corporation (now the Region 5 Supply Federation), the An Dong General Warehouse in Da Nang was remodeled and repaired. In the process of remodeling, 30 sets of 12 meter building rafters were taken from the site. Under an order from To Dung, these rafters were not recorded in record books but used instead as the property of the federation. In addition, while organizing the reclamation of discarded supplies and materials, the federation, which kept valuable items for itself, took 10 sets of 42 meter rafters. Nguyen Xuan Si, the former head of the Capital Construction Department and chief of the subsidiary production plant of the federation, learned through a relative who worked at Agency X, in Da Nang that Agency X. was in need of iron frames for the construction of a building. Si contacted the agency and raised the matter of trading 40 sets of rafters for cement, iron and diesel fuel. He requested that Agency X. loan them 150 tons of 8 millimeter iron in advance. To legitimize the delivery of this iron from the An Don warehouse to the subsidiary production plant of the federation, Nguyen Xuan Si, representing party A, the Construction Department, signed a contract with representative B, Dang Ngoc Ung in the subsidiary production plant, which called for party A (for whom Si was the department head) to deliver to party B (for whom Si was the chief of the subsidiary production plant) 100 tons of 8 millimeter iron so that party B could process it into soft black wire and nail wire, with the contract extending from 5 March to 5 August 1981. During this time, as a result of conspiring in advance with a dishonest merchant named Nguyen Hoang Dan in Ho Chi Minh City, Nguyen Xuan Si, with the consent of To Dung, joined Le Tan Duc, the director of the General Supply Enterprise of the 8th Precinct in Ho Chi Minh City in signing one copy of a contract in which the subsidiary production plant of the Supply Federation of the 8th Precinct (of which Duc was the director) and dishonest merchant Nguyen Hoang Dan were to receive 100 tons of iron for processing into soft black wire. With the "contract" having been signed and with "all papers in order," the iron was shipped from Da Nang to Ho

Chi Minh City. It did not go to the Supply Enterprise of the 8th Precinct, as required in the contract, but to Dan and then to Duc. When they were caught, he testified: "I and Si agreed to purchase the iron in Da Nang at a price of 7 dong 7 hao per kilogram, excluding transportation charges." Le Tan Duc continued: "The signing of the contract was designed to legitimize the release of the iron from the province and its shipment from Da Nang to Ho Chi Minh City. When it arrived at its destination, I (Duc) bought it from Dan at a price of 10 dong per kilogram. I purchased 63 tons of iron from Dan and resold it to the Thong Nhat Nail Factory, the Highway Machinery Production Installation of the 8th Precinct, the Supply Enterprise of the 10th Precinct and so forth at a price of 11 dong per kilogram. I bought the entire lot and sold it in stages without any state plan norms. In addition to the 10 percent commission paid to me by Dan for the sale of 63 tons of iron at a total price of 693,000 dong, I turned over all of the money from my sales directly to Dan. Dan and Si then settled up with each other..."

According to figures compiled by the investigating agency, the iron sold by Si amounted to 114 tons, some of which was sold directly to merchants at a profit, with the money being turned over to the subsidiary production plant. Some of the iron was lost in shipment.

In addition, To Dung also used the "subsidiary production plant" to deal with dishonest merchants for supplies and discarded materials. Dung authorized Nguyen Xuan Si, the plant chief, and Nguyen Ngoc Cu, the chief accountant of the subsidiary production plant, to go to Binh Tri Thien and make the necessary contacts to purchase discarded materials. Si and Cu signed 74 blank invoices-warehouse release forms and made arrangements to buy 1,000 pairs of automobile tires, 35 tons of automobile springs and 400 electric storage batteries of various types, worth 111,000 dong. Si and Cu resold these discarded materials to dishonest merchant Nguyen Hoang Dan for 131,300 dong. They also signed two checks and loaned to Dan 17,000 dong and signed with ~~the~~ railroad sector of the 2nd Precinct a contract to transport these discarded materials to Dan in Ho Chi Minh City. The criminals were brought before the court and appropriately punished.

The several cases mentioned above concerning the channels through which state goods slip into the hands of merchants are a reminder to all agencies and enterprises that they must correctly comply with enterprise and agency management regulations and principles and closely manage the work of their cadres and personnel. At the same time, they point out that those persons who are degenerate, engage in misappropriation and collusion, profiteers and smugglers, regardless of how clever they might be, will, sooner or later, find themselves in the position that society has established for those who violate the law: prison.

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CSO: 4209/498

AGRICULTURE

ACHIEVEMENTS, SHORTCOMINGS IN EXPLOITING MARINE PRODUCTS DISCUSSED

Hanoi NHAN DAN in Vietnamese 20 Jul 83 p 2

[Article by Nguyen Kien Phuoc: "The Marine Products Sector in Hau Giang and the Task of Exploiting the Second Strength of the Province"]

[Text] From the Momentum Gained in the First 6 Months of This Year

The marine products sector in Hau Giang had been advancing with difficulty ever since the Con Dao state-operated fishing flotilla was handed over to the Vung Tau-Con Dao Special Zone. Despite the valuable experiences in managerial method handed down by predecessors, the task of organizing a special flotilla for Hau Giang was beset with difficulties. For 3 and 4 years at a stretch, the province tried to rehabilitate the flotilla and to build new boats but the training of skilled, well-qualified pilots and seamen could not be done overnight. For this reason, though considered to be an economic strength second to agriculture, the marine products sector in Hau Giang could only slowly develop its organizational apparatus and its material and technical bases and could only yield a low output of fish and shrimp caught and bred. Since 1982, the sector has made outstanding efforts to satisfactorily fulfill the state plan norms for output and for the delivery of frozen shrimp for export.

In the first 6 months of 1983, Hau Giang obtained 15,250 tons of fish and shrimp, fulfilling 70 percent of the state plan norm. The amount of marine products caught came to 7,510 tons fulfilling 83 percent of the yearly plan norm, showing an increase of 40 percent over the first 6 months of 1982 and including 1,616 tons of shrimp representing 53 percent of the yearly plan norm. More and more progress has been made in purchasing freshwater and seawater products and in taking control of their sources. In the first half of this year, Hau Giang purchased 6,559 tons of marine products and freshwater fish and shrimp, surpassing by 24 percent the 1983 yearly plan norm and including 3,880 tons of shrimp which was 2.7 times larger than the amount assigned by the plan. Some commodities such as shrimp for use as a raw material, dried shrimp and fish reckoned in terms of their equivalent weight when fresh, and fish fins and swim-bladders also surpassed the plan norm. In particular, the amount of freshwater fish and shrimp purchased came to 3,796 tons representing a 2.5-fold increase over the plan norm and including 2,446 tons of shrimp of various kinds which was 18 times larger than the amount

indicated in the plan assigned by the Ministry of Marine Products (big green shrimp alone reached 1,200 tons which was 9.2 times larger than the amount required by the state plan).

The organization of brackish- and freshwater fish and shrimp breeding has been developed fairly well in all 14 districts and cities of the province. Hau Giang has 630 hectares of fish ponds and 3,200 hectares of fish breeding ricefields. The brackish water area and the ricefield area used to breed shrimp are 2,000 and 1,600 hectares respectively. Apart from the intricate network of canals, the ricefield area supplies a large volume of products to the Hau Giang marine products sector.

The great achievements of the Hau Giang marine products sector in the first 6 months of 1983 are the result of many factors from its unified management from the first to last stage, from the purchase to the processing of products and to the elimination of the usually competitive purchase or sale of a single batch of shrimp by four or five sectors. The wide-open door policy allowing the district and grassroots levels to participate in exportation has aroused great enthusiasm (compared with the past when only the two coastal districts of Vinh Chau and Long Phu were allowed to participate) and has promoted the intensive and extensive development of the movement to breed fresh and brackish water fish and shrimp throughout the province. Market management has been carried out ever more strictly. The vast sources of shrimp in Hau Giang have been safeguarded carefully. It must also be stressed that the relatively rational purchase price of shrimp has encouraged all localities to develop the production and breeding of marine products. The main export installation in Hau Giang is a marine products refrigerating and processing enterprise located in the city of Soc Trang. In carrying out its activities over the past few years, this enterprise was faced with innumerable difficulties while performing production and capital construction simultaneously; it could not reap any profit from production because its management method was encumbered by excessive bureaucracy. Prior to 1981, the enterprise could not produce 100 tons [a year] but has made outstanding progress in the past 2 years. In the first 6 months of 1983, the enterprise processed 330 tons of shrimp for export and entrusted the processing of 115.6 tons to other places; in total, it achieved 445.6 tons--a 2.2-fold increase over the plan norm assigned by the Ministry of Marine Products. Category A1 and A2 shrimp represented 98 percent [of the total amount processed]. In addition, the enterprise processed 288 tons of dried shrimp--a fourfold increase over the plan norm and a threefold increase over the amount in the first 6 months of last year. This is a very encouraging initial result of the product contracting method applied in each stage of work on a tonnage basis. In the past, the usual daily output of each worker was 3 kgs of finished product; this output has now reached 8 kgs on the average and has sometimes shot up to 12, 14 or 16 kgs. The average monthly salary of each worker is 400 dong.

Problems Requiring Early Solution

One must admit objectively that there are actually very great possibilities of catching fish and shrimp on the sea area of Hau Giang and breeding them in the fields of this province. However, an analysis of the result of the

production and business activities of the Hau Giang marine products sector has enabled one to perceive easily the conspicuous limitations in some aspects. First of all, there is a disproportion between the exploitation and catching of marine products on the sea and the exploitation and purchase of freshwater products at their sources. Generally speaking, the state-operated fishing flotilla in Hau Giang has carried out activities weakly. Only 8 out of 18 boats have gone out to sea and their output has been low. The transformation and reorganization of the production activities of the marine products sector has been done slowly. The output of marine products is constituted mainly by those caught by private boats plus the amount of freshwater products purchased by the sector. Attention has not yet been paid to sufficiently increasing the number of technical cadres such as pilots, mechanics and seamen. Therefore, the level of seagoing experience of these cadres and workers is not yet high and has fluctuated frequently. Since they have not yet been employed rationally and since a good treatment system is still lacking, a number of technical cadres and workers do not have their minds at ease to go out to the open sea to look for fish shoals.

The Marine Products Service's apparatus still lacks skillful managerial cadres and is not yet strong and dynamic enough to manage this important sector of the province. Noteworthy is the fact that the principal material bases of the sector have to rely on the marine products refrigerating and processing enterprises which, literally speaking, has to act on its own to achieve a balance in everything. This means that in carrying out production and building material and technical bases, this enterprise has been self-sufficient with a very limited capital for investment.

The economic relationships between the enterprise and other production installations and localities are still confused and its right to use foreign currency not clearly defined. The opinion of the marine products sector is that the recent application of the income use rate will not stimulate production and may even incur losses for the enterprise. There still are many impediments in the export-import relationships between the enterprise and the marine products export corporation of the Ministry of Marine Products--from the foreign currency rate applied in settling accounts to the appropriation and use of the enterprise's capital, from the failure to announce the prices of export goods to the existence of many intermediary stages in the course of receiving import goods and from the deliberate remanufacture of dried commodities to the quality control of local export goods, there are many problems which have not yet been defined clearly and resolved squarely.

In the process of development of the Hau Giang marine products sector, it is necessary to resolve satisfactorily the hindrances in the above-mentioned relationships and to pay due attention to the expansion of production and business activities; if this is done, the sector will certainly score greater achievements. The exportation of frozen marine products by Hau Giang is developing. This year, the province is building another refrigerating factory with a daily capacity of 3 to 4 tons in Can Tho and is installing a further freezer at the Soc Trang refrigerating enterprise. The state-operated fishing flotilla is actively increasing the number of cadres, repairing boats and buying new ones. With this impetus, the Hau Giang marine products sector is moving forward to assume the task of exploiting the province's second [economic] strength most satisfactorily

AGRICULTURE

GRAIN COLLECTION NORMS FULFILLED IN 10 NORTHERN PROVINCES

Hanoi NHAN DAN in Vietnamese 20 Jul 83 p 1

[Text] VNA--As of 15 July, 10 provinces and cities in North Vietnam--namely, Bac Thai, Quang Ninh, Vinh Phu, Ha Bac, Ha Son Binh, Hai Hung, Hanoi, Thanh Hoa, Nghe Tinh and Binh Tri Thien--have fulfilled the overall norm for the 1983 5th-month and spring grain collection. Nghe Tinh Province has delivered to state granaries nearly 84,000 tons of grain fulfilling 117 percent of the plan norm and representing an increase of 11,000 tons over the same period last year.

As of 15 July, North Vietnam has delivered to state granaries 91.3 percent of the overall norm for the 1983 5th-month and spring grain collection; this amount includes 233,210 tons of grain purchased above and beyond the obligation norm.

The provinces in the delta and midlands of Bac Bo have delivered to state granaries 88.6 percent of the overall grain collection norm and 89.1 percent of the fixed obligation norm. Though being an important rice producing province, Thai Binh has been slow in delivering grain to state granaries and has fulfilled only 53.7 percent of the plan norm. Ha Nam Ninh Province and Haiphong City have also underfulfilled the norm and are accelerating the grain collection in order to fulfill the overall collection norm set for the entire crop.

To date, the provinces in former Zone 4 have delivered to state granaries 110.6 percent of the overall collection norm and 98.6 percent of the fixed obligation norm. Because of a belated harvest, the mountainous provinces have been slow in collecting grain and so far have fulfilled only 50.6 percent of the overall collection norm and 63.2 percent of the fixed obligation norm.

Of all mountainous provinces, Bac Thai has collected the greatest volume of grain; to date, it has delivered to state granaries 10,938 tons equivalent to 106.1 percent of the overall collection norm, thus taking the lead among all provinces in the volume and the collection speed for the 5th-month and spring crop. Both Son La and Lang Son Provinces have achieved a low collection norm --Son La having fulfilled only 11.4 percent and Lang Son only 13.2 percent of the overall collection norm.

9332

CSO: 4209/502

CAMPAIGN AGAINST DROUGHT, PESTS STEPPED UP

Hanoi QUAN DOI NHAN DAN in Vietnamese 26 Jul 83 p 1

[Article: "Vinh Phuc, Hau Giang Actively Fight Drought, Speedily Sow and Transplant 10th-Month Rice, Tend Summer-Autumn Rice, Prevent and Exterminate Pests"]

[Text] In Vinh Phuc, nearly 10,000 hectares of 10th-month rice and 1,500 hectares of seedlings have been hard hit by drought. The cooperatives have used every means to bring water into the fields for plowing, harrowing and sowing and transplanting the 10th-month rice. Cooperative members have made full use of pond and lake water for irrigation purposes.

Dinh Trung Cooperative (Vinh Yen Municipality) has mobilized 500 laborers to bail pond and lake water into the fields for rice transplantation. The districts of Lap Thach, Tam Dao, Phong Chau, Doan Hung and Thanh Hoa...have organized antidrought teams, using buckets and water wheels to bring water into the fields for early 10th-month rice transplantation. Highland cooperatives in the mountainous district of Thanh Son, including Vinh Tien and Dong Cuu, have even installed bamboo pipelines, measuring from 5 to 6 kilometers, to carry spring water from the mountains down to the fields to prepare the soil for rice sowing and transplanting.

Vinh Phuc has supplied electricity and oil on a priority basis to water pumping stations for capacity operation, to help peasants plant their 10th-month crop within the schedule. The water conservancy sector has guided the districts to open sluice gates properly in order to get water for soil plowing and harrowing, and for 10th-month rice sowing and transplanting.

As of mid-July, Hau Giang Province has sowed and transplanted over 101,000 hectares of 10th-month rice, achieving nearly 30 percent of plan--11,000 hectares more than last year's corresponding period--including 40,000 hectares of high-yield intensively cultivated rice. Thot Not District, and Song Hau and Phuong Nien State Farms have overfulfilled the norms for sowing and transplanting the 10th-month rice by 100 to 800 hectares.

At present, over 20,000 hectares of summer-autumn and early 10th-month rice in the province are affected by pests, including planthoppers and stemborers.... The agricultural sector has sent many technical cadres into the infested areas

to coordinate with the forces of technical agents of cooperatives and production collectives to exterminate pests promptly in order to protect the rice. The province has sent an additional supply of over 500 tons of insecticide to anti-pest installations to help them protect the rice. Due to uneven rainfalls, tens of thousands of hectares of summer-autumn and early 10th-month rice located in high areas still are affected by drought, prompting cooperatives, production collectives and peasants in Hau Giang to continue water conservancy work, and to use all other means to fight drought.

9213

CSO: 4209/494

AGRICULTURE

COFFEE PLANTING ON CENTRAL HIGHLANDS INCREASED

—of QUAN DOI NHAN DAN in Vietnamese 27 Jul 83 p 1

[Article: "Scientific Meeting on Soil for Coffee Planting on Central Highlands"]

[Text] (VNA) The Federation of Coffee Enterprises, the Pedology Institute, and the Agricultural Design and Planning Subinstitute (Ministry of Agriculture) have just held in Dac Lac a scientific meeting on soil for coffee planting in three Central Highland provinces. The meeting discussed measures to solve the water problem, and to maintain the degree of humidity for land protection, etc, particularly in areas of long-term industrial crops, such as coffee, a local crop with a high economic and export value.

According to reports to the meeting, nearly 1/2 of the Central Highlands' 1.8 million hectares of land can be used to plant coffee and rubber trees. The agricultural sector has finished drawing up zoning maps relating to 40 state farms under the management of 4 joint coffee enterprises: Vietnam-Germany, Vietnam-Czechoslovakia, Vietnam-Bulgaria, and Vietnam-USSR. Basically, these state farms have defined clearly their economic structure and their commitment to developing coffee planting. The local ethnic minorities' practices of nomadic farming, nomadic life, and cultivation by burning forests on their part have exerted a very great impact on the need to preserve water sources and maintain a suitable degree of humidity for crops. In recent years, due to lack of irrigation water and of fertilizers, coffee productivity has generally been low, while quite a few new plants have died. Of more than 7,000 hectares of coffee planted in the past 5 years in Dac Lac, only nearly 4,000 hectares remain.

Research into basaltic soil and economic and technical data, collected at state farms, show that Central Highland orchards need year-round tree-root plowing--during the dry season to maintain the degree of humidity for crops, and during the wet season to prevent erosion. Coffee planting according to technical standards that ensure adequate irrigation water and mixed planting with green-manure and leguminous crops, will considerably raise bean output.

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AGRICULTURE

DROUGHT HAMPERS 10TH MONTH RICE PRODUCTION IN THE NORTH

Hanoi NHAN DAN in Vietnamese 14 Jul 83 pp 1, 4

[Article: "Responsibility and Discipline: the Entire Country Focuses Its Efforts on Planting and Transplanting 10th Month Rice During the Best Possible Season While Investing in the Intensive Cultivation of Summer-Fall Rice; Thai Binh Province Recorded an Average 5th Month-Spring Rice Yield of 38.4 Quintals Per Hectare, with Four Districts Averaging More than 40 Quintals Per Hectare and 29 Cooperatives Recording Yields of 50 to More Than 60 Quintals Per Hectare"]

[Text] The recent hot, sunny weather has been good for the harvesting of 5th month-spring rice. Generally speaking, the rice harvest has been proceeding at a rather rapid rate in all localities. Although some spring rice was transplanted late, the amount of area on which spring rice crops were a complete failure was insignificant in virtually all provinces. Many localities have exceeded their plan target on the yield of 5th month-spring rice.

At present, the localities of the North are concentrating their efforts on meeting and exceeding the plan quotas on the amount of area under cultivation. The 10th month rice planting season is a season that poses very strict time requirements. However, agricultural production is encountering difficulties. Due to the prolonged drought, there is a shortage of water needed to prepare fields for the transplanting of 10th month rice. Many places lack draft power and have been preparing their fields slowly. To date, only 40.5 percent of the land required under the plan has been plowed, which amounts to 287,000 hectares less than this time last year. Many 10th month seedling plantings lack water and this has affected their growth and development. Some seedling plantings are dry and withered. At a number of places, water sources have dried up. All reservoir levels are low.

According to the Ministry of Water Conservancy, drought has affected 282,000 hectares in nine provinces, with salt deposits having developed on 35,700 of these hectares. The state has decided to supply to pump stations 60,000 kilowatts of electricity on a 24-hour per day basis to combat the drought during the 10th month season. The various localities have centralized their labor and have been making full use of the time that electricity is available

in order to make full use of the capacity of pump stations. On the other hand, it is necessary to coordinate the use of diesel operated pumps, gravity irrigation, buckets and spinners to combat drought, protect 10th month seedlings, protect newly transplanted rice and provide water for the planting and transplanting of main crop rice; at the same time, it is necessary to fully prepare the forces and equipment needed to guard against typhoons and flooding. Production installations are taking many steps to protect the seedlings that have been sown; making detailed calculations in order to adopt plans for sowing additional seedlings to compensate for those that have been lost; and mobilizing and coordinating tractors, buffalo, cattle and manpower in order to prepare 10th month fields at a faster rate.

To date, the provinces of the North have only transplanted enough early 10th month rice and sown enough terraced rice to complete 10.2 percent of their plan quota, 134,000 hectares (by this time last year, 215,000 hectares had been completed). The early 10th month rice transplanting season is about to come to an end but the rate of transplanting is still slow and many seedling plantings have become old. Installations are trying to make full use of their equipment, buckets and spinners to bail water and plow fields in order to correct the problem of "seedlings waiting for fields."

The southern provinces have taken advantage of those days during which it has rained to sow and transplant enough 10th month rice to complete 22.2 percent of their plan quota but are still 141,000 hectares behind the point where they were this time last year. The provinces from Thuan Hai southward have completed 20.6 percent of their transplanting plan quota. The provinces of the Mekong Delta have completed 23.2 percent of their transplanting quota. Besides sowing and transplanting 10th month rice quickly, the localities of the South are focusing their efforts on cultivating and fertilizing their summer-fall rice and trying to transplant all the land that should be transplanted with 10th month rice.

Thai Binh Province has completed the harvesting of its 5th month-spring rice. The provincial people's committee recently made the following preliminary evaluation: this was a 5th month-spring rice season during which a high yield was achieved and victory was won amidst very difficult circumstances caused by the weather: the ground was dry and the weather was very cold for many days at the start of the season and a prolonged period of drought occurred at the time that the rice was heading and forming grains.

The struggle to overcome this natural disaster was a very intense one but, thanks to their long established intensive cultivation practices and habits plus technological advances and the material bases that have been constructed over a period of many years, the farmers of Thai Binh gradually overcame their difficulties. This year, nearly one-half million cubic meters of dirt have been excavated to build water conservancy projects, dozens of pump stations have been constructed or repaired, hundreds of kilometers of rivers and ditches have been dredged...and many new, high yield varieties have been introduced: hybrid NN8, Spring Number 2, CR203, IR15-16 and so forth, which replaced long-term varieties that had degenerated and become infested with pests. Much more fertilizer was applied than last year. Nearly 300 kilograms of nitrogen fertilizer were applied per hectare and application began at the

very start of the season. Cooperative members invested many more days in sowing and transplanting, in cultivation and the prevention and control of pests and invested much more livestock manure and nitrogen fertilizer.

The 5th month-spring season was a considerable success: 75,500 hectares of rice were raised. Yield averaged 38.4 quintals per hectare and output reached 291,000 tons; compared to the 1982 5th month-spring season, yield increased by 0.8 quintal and output increased by 8,500 tons.

Four districts recorded yields between 40 and 45 quintals per hectare: Dong Hung: 45.22 quintals; Hung Ha: 43.10 quintals; Kien Xuong: 42.87 quintals; and Vu Thu: 40.68 quintals per hectare. Some 147 villages (50 percent) averaged yields in excess of 40 quintals per hectare; of this number, 29 cooperatives recorded yields ranging from 50 to 60 quintals per hectare and the cooperatives of Nguyen Xa, Vu Thang and Vu Quy recorded average yields in excess of 60 quintals per hectare. The high yield rice fields at the Vu Thang Cooperative, which measure 75 hectares and were transplanted with Spring Rice Variety number 2, yielded 79 quintals per hectare. The Thai Binh Provincial People's Committee has also observed that the success was not uniform; two districts and more than a few cooperatives recorded lower yields than in 1982. If these cooperatives (especially those in the districts of Tien Hai and Thai Thuy and a portion of Kien Xuong District) had strictly adhered to the transplanting schedule of the province; had closely guided the preparation of seed and the sowing of seedlings in order to prevent the shortage of seedlings and the transplanting of thousands of hectares of rice so late that it headed too late and hundreds of hectares of rice so late that it did not head at all; and had more closely guided the effort to combat drought and prevent and control pests at the end of the season, the success that was won would surely have been larger and more uniform. If Tien Hai and Thai Thuy had only maintained the rice yield and output that they recorded during the 1982 5th month-spring season, the average rice yield of the province would have reached approximately 40 quintals per hectare.

Thai Binh is guiding its cooperatives in a concerted effort to complete the total grain mobilization quota for the 1983 5th month-spring season and increasing the rate at which 10th month crops are planted in order to keep pace with the season and meet technical requirements.

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AGRICULTURE

BRIEFS

HANOI GRAIN PROCUREMENT--As of 11 July 1983, Hanoi had procured 38,050 tons of 5th month-spring grain, 26.9 percent more than the initially assigned quota and 8.77 percent more than the supplemental quota. All 12 districts and cities completed their total 5th month-spring grain mobilization quotas; Hanoi exceeded its quota by 3.1 percent. [Text] [Hanoi NHAN DAN in Vietnamese 14 Jul 83 p 1] 7809

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HEAVY INDUSTRY AND CONSTRUCTION

SAO VANG TIRE FACTORY PUT BACK INTO PRODUCTION

Hanoi QUAN DOI NHAN DAN in Vietnamese 25 Jul 83 pp 1, 4

[Article by Ngo Tat Huu: "Hanoi Sao Vang Rubber Factory Rehabilitates Automobile Tire Assembly Line Production"]

[Text] The Hanoi Sao Vang Rubber Factory was equipped with the country's largest production assembly line of automobile tires. In 1977, it turned out over 65,000 sets. Since 1978, due to supply and raw material shortages, production of automobile tires at the factory had dwindled until 1980, when it stopped. All the equipment and machinery was put in mothballs, while over 300 skilled workers were scattered to different shops and locations.

At the end of 1982, party committee echelons and factory management officials, following a self-review, realized that it was necessary to exploit the factory's latent capabilities--which were still great, with its existing equipment, machinery and labor force--to turn out more products for the state. They then took steps to rehabilitate the entire automobile tire production system.

Over 20 kinds of production assembly line equipment were brought back into production, employing remaining workers and those previously transferred to other locations.

A leading goal of the factory is to ensure product quality. Dozens of economic and technical symposia were held under the board of directors' direct management, to solve the raw material problem, ensure product durability and gloss, and seek substitutes for domestic raw materials. Cadres and workers actively brushed up on past production techniques. In close contact with production, the technical and quality control bureaus collected parameters of various fibers, enabling the factory to devise an appropriate production process and to use all three different raw fibers to make automobile tires. Especially, following research the factory has changed the production process to include polyamide, a fiber that costs less than its homologues but still ensures product quality. In the first 6 months of this year, combining research with joint production, the factory has turned over over 2,000 sets of tires of good quality, of which 1,500 were officially delivered to the Ministry of Mines and Coal.

Through production experiences and scientific and technical research achievements, the Sao Vang Rubber Factory has solved basic problems involving the manufacturing process, trained the ranks of workers, and strived to reduce gradually the load of imported supplies and raw materials. So far, the factory has brought over 80 percent of domestic supplies and raw materials into use. Tire testing at the Quang Ninh mining zone in the past 6 months has yielded very good results.

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LABOR

MANY YOUTHS VOLUNTEER TO WORK ON POWER PLANTS

Hanoi QUAN DOI NHAN DAN in Vietnamese 24 Jul 83 pp 1, 4

[Article: "Over 10,000 Laborers Take Part in Building the Hoa Binh Hydroelectric Power Station, Pha Lai Thermoelectric Power Station, Other Projects in Quang Ninh Coal Zone"]

[Text] (VNA) The Ha Son Binh Labor Service has just recruited an additional 3,000 laborers for the Hoa Binh hydroelectric power station project. Thus, since construction began Ha Son Binh Province has sent 9,100 laborers to that big project, contributing especially to leveling land and to Stage I of building the main dams on the Da River.... The labor service has reserved recruitment priorities for young, able-bodied demobilized army men, and for candidates from 11 ethnic minorities living in the province, most of whom are youth union members having finished at least level-II, or level-III general school. Some 500 laborers are competent and skilled cadres and workers coming from various enterprises, work sites, sectors and crafts. Many youths who owe their maturity to labor, have learned to use properly different kinds of motorized vehicles and machinery. Under Soviet specialists' guidance, hundreds of youths have upgraded their skills. Le Thi Nuong, the only EKG [Tract Strip Mining Excavator] grading machine woman driver at the work site, has always achieved high labor productivity. Dao Cong Chung, a truck driver, has always taken the lead in carrying earth and rocks to units in charge of building dams across the Da River. Thousands of Ha Son Binh youths have been selected for on-the-spot vocational training of 1, or 2 years' duration, to cater to the needs of the project. The Ha Son Binh labor service has also recruited 600 youths for Corporations 18 and 74 (Ministry of Communications) to build two roads, linking Hoa Binh with the new district of Da Bac, and with Son La, paving the way for evacuating local inhabitants from a lake bed in the construction of the hydroelectric power station.

On the morning of 21 July, Hai Hung Province held a solemn ceremony to see 1,000 young laborers off on their trip to take part in building the Pha Lai thermoelectric power station, and other construction projects in Quang Ninh.

As of the end of May, Hai Hung has sent 500 laborers to the Hoa Binh hydroelectric power station project on the Da River.

To recruit, according to norms, 1,000 young laborers for Building Corporation 18 (Ministry of Building), the main building unit in the Pha Lai thermoelectric power station project, the Ho Chi Minh Communist Youth provincial union, and the provincial branch in charge of labor and population mobilization in Hai Hung, have coordinated to carry out properly a campaign of propaganda, education and selection of laborers among union members at various union installations in the province.

Youth union installations in the province held a political indoctrination campaign on the theme, "For the Fatherland's Future Electric Power," and organized trips to "Follow in the Heroes' Footsteps"; then they urged union members to fill out applications, volunteering for work at key construction projects across the nation.

In the first 15 days of July, alone, union installations chose 1,000 laborers from over 5,000 applicants, who took part in the campaign of "Youths Building and Protecting the Fatherland." This time, all young Hai Hung departees are members of the Ho Chi Minh Communist Youth Union. Nearly all these active local laborers have graduated from secondary school, including 265 female union members and 65 former army men.

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Sept. 19, 1983